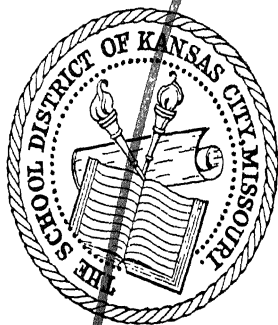


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GREAT THOUGHTS

FROM

GREEK AUTHORS.

BY

CRAUFURD TAIT RAMAGE, LL.D.,

AUTHOR OF "GREAT THOUGHTS FROM LATIN AUTHORS," "GREAT
THOUGHTS FROM FRENCH AND ITALIAN AUTHORS," "GREAT
THOUGHTS FROM GERMAN AND SPANISH AUTHORS," ETC.

"This field is so spacious that it were easy for a man to lose himself in it; and if I should spend all my pilgrimage in this walk, my time would sooner end than my way."

BISHOP HALL.

NEW YORK:

JOHN B. ALDEN, PUBLISHER,

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NEW YORK.

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PREFACE TO SECOND EDITION.

ON this new edition I have endeavored to bring all my previous knowledge to bear, in order that it might be rendered more in keeping with my other works. The poetical translations have been thrown aside, and in every case I have given the passage in prose.

I have taken advantage of Duport's parallelisms from the Holy Scriptures to show the wonderful resemblance that the language of Homer bears more particularly to the sentiments found in the Old Testament. In the other Greek Authors I have also attempted to show the similarity between them and the Sacred Writers.

The volume has been nearly doubled by the addition of new passages, and extracts from many writers have been given, which did not appear in the former edition.

WALLACE HALL, *1st May*, 1873.

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PREFACE TO FIRST EDITION.

THE Editor is encouraged by the unexpected favor with which his former work has been received to bring forward a companion volume from "Greek Authors," which he ventures to hope will be found equally interesting. While many new topics have been introduced, the reader will here have an opportunity of tracing the original source, from which the master-spirits of Rome derived many of their finest thoughts. So true is the observation of Horace—

*"Græcia capta ferum victorem cepit et artes
Intulit agresti Latio."*

To show how closely the Romans imitated their Greek masters, the Editor has introduced copious illustrations from his former work, and has also taken advantage of Mr. Grocott's valuable volume of "Index of Quotations, Ancient and Modern," to point out how much the English classic authors are indebted to the ancients for many of those gems that are scattered so profusely through their writings. Their bold flights of imagination, and the volumes of wisdom compressed into a phrase, are often but loans derived from the classical authors of Greece and Rome. It has been, therefore, an agreeable task to award to those pure and thoughtful spirits of the olden times their due meed of praise, by trying to ascertain the exact contributions which each has made to the intellectual riches of the world.

Another peculiar feature in the present work is the numerous references to the Holy Scriptures for points of resemblance. It is impossible, indeed, to examine the heathen doctrines of religion and ethics without being struck with their wonderful likeness to those which are sometimes considered to be peculiar to Christianity; here may be found many of the moral doctrines and sublime sayings of the Gospel, but there is always something wanting to give them life, and bring them home to the heart and feelings of human beings. Noble truths have always been taught by both Eastern and Western sages; yet they want that clear and perfect ring, which they possess when they are known to issue from Divine lips. The Editor has selected much from the writings of Plato, to show how far this resemblance extends; and, no doubt, he has omitted many passages which would have borne equally strong testimony that it is not without good reason that Plato has been called the "Atticising Moses."

It has been well observed, that nothing can be more useful to young minds having capacity and high aspirations than such selections as the Editor has brought together from the works of great men. Each quotation is a separate bait, a temptation to feel greatly, and to do greatly; and a friend, whose delicate health has obliged him to retire from the busy haunts of men, very beautifully remarks that their charm for the old and infirm is scarcely less: to such "it is nothing short of delightful to have a book at hand which will suit itself either to the exigencies or the deficiencies of the minute with an elastic power of adaptability which no living friend can possess." It was for those of lofty aspirations among the young, and for men of cultivated minds among the old,

that the Editor has attempted to make a selection from a treasure that has continued to accumulate from the earliest times, till it now comprehends a brief abstract of the wisdom of all ages.

CRAUFURD TAIT RAMAGE.

WALLACE HALL, 1st October, 1864.

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GREAT THOUGHTS FROM GREEK AUTHORS.

ÆSCHINES.

BORN B.C. 389—DIED B.C. 314.

ÆSCHINES, one of the most celebrated of the Athenian orators, was the son of Tromes, the slave of a schoolmaster, Elpias, and Glaucia, who gained her livelihood by playing and singing at the sacred festivals. His father succeeded to the school of Elpias, and Æschines, in his youth, was employed by his father to clean his schoolroom. When he was somewhat older he assisted his mother in her theatrical performances, being remarkable for a strong and sonorous voice; but in this he does not seem to have been successful, as on one occasion, when he was performing in the character of CEnomäus, he was hissed off the stage. We then find him entering the military service, gaining great distinction at the battle of Mantinea, B.C. 362. It was, however, as an orator that he acquired the reputation which has handed down his name to posterity. At the commencement of his political career he took an active part against Philip of Macedon, though he became convinced, ere long, that nothing but peace with Philip would avert utter ruin from his country. His opponents accused him of having been bribed

by the king to support his measures; but there does not appear any reason to believe that he acted treacherously towards his country. He was the opponent of Demosthenes; and though he failed in his attacks, it was to him that we owe the celebrated speech of Demosthenes on the crown, which is considered one of the finest bursts of eloquence which the world has ever produced. The three great speeches of Æschines which still remain were called by the ancients the Graces. They are distinguished by great felicity of diction, wonderful boldness and vigor of description, so that it is generally allowed that he was only second to Demosthenes.

DUTIES OF A JUDGE IN A FREE STATE.

For you ought to be well aware that there are three different forms of government established in the world—monarchy, oligarchy, and democracy. In the two former the government is conducted at the will of the ruling powers, while in the latter it proceeds according to established laws. Let none of you, therefore, be ignorant, but let it be deeply engraven on the minds of all, that when he enters the tribunal to give judgment on a case where the law has been violated, he is that day giving sentence on his own liberties.

THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE CHARACTER OF A STATESMAN.

He who hates his own children, he who is a bad parent, cannot be a good leader of the people. He who is insensible to the duties which he owes to those who are nearest, and who ought to be dearest, to him, will never feel a higher regard for your welfare, who are strangers to him. He who

acts wickedly in private life can never be expected to show himself noble in his public conduct. He who is base at home will not acquit himself with honor when sent to a foreign country in a public capacity: for it is not the man, but the place merely, that is changed.

A DEFEAT IS NOT THE GREATEST OF CALAMITIES.

For a defeat in war is not the greatest of all evils; but when the defeat has been inflicted by enemies who are unworthy of you, then the calamity is doubled.

CHARACTER OF BOASTERS.

For other boasters, when they lie, try not to speak too particularly or plainly, from fear of being disproved afterwards.

INTEGRITY.

Integrity is to be preferred to eloquence.

A PRODIGAL.

For no wealth can enrich a vicious prodigal.

AMNESTY.

Amnesty, that noble word, the genuine dictate of wisdom.

A MERE CRAFTSMAN OF WORDS.

A fellow, whose tongue is his sole merit, and without it, like a flute, all that there is of him besides, were good for nothing.

THE POWER OF A PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL IN A
REPUBLIC.

For in a republican state every private individual shares regal power by means of the laws and

his vote; but when he surrenders these to another, he annuls his own sovereignty.

VAUNTING.

For men of real merit, and whose noble and glorious deeds we are ready to acknowledge, are yet not to be endured when they vaunt their own actions.

EDUCATION BY EXAMPLE.

For you are well aware that it is not only by bodily exercises, by educational institutions, or by lessons in music, that our youth are trained, but much more effectually by public examples.

ÆSCHYLUS.

BORN B.C. 525—DIED B.C. 456.

ÆSCHYLUS, the son of Euphorion, a native of Eleusis, in Attica, was the father of the Athenian drama. He was present at the battle of Marathon, B.C. 490, in which he was greatly distinguished along with his brothers; and in a picture representing this battle he was placed in the foreground, and was thus associated in the honors which were paid to Miltiades. Six years afterwards, B.C. 484, the same year in which Herodotus was born, Æschylus gained his first victory as a competitor for the prize of tragedy; and he was successful thirteen times during an interval of sixteen years. He visited the court of Hiero, king of Syracuse, who was a distinguished patron of the learned, and who had induced such men as Pindar and Simonides to reside with him. There is a power in the language, a sublimity in the imagery, with

which the poet bodies forth the creations of his genius, that makes him rank among the master spirits of the world.

TIES OF KINDRED ARE STRONG.

Strong are the ties of kindred and long converse.

ALL HAVE THEIR LOT APPOINTED.

Everything has been accomplished except for the other gods to rule; for no one is free save Jove.

WAVES.

And countless dimpling of the waves of the deep.

So Milton ("Paradise Lost," iv. 165)—

"Cheered with the grateful smell, old Ocean smiles."

Lord Byron (opening of the "Giaour")—

"There mildly dimpling ocean's cheek
Reflects the tints of many a peak,
Caught by the laughing tides that lave
Those Edens of the eastern wave."

NECESSITY NOT TO BE RESISTED.

But I must endure my doom as easily as may be, knowing, as I do, that the power of necessity is irresistible.

So Shakespeare ("Richard II.," act v. sc. 1)—

"I am sworn brother, sweet,
To grim Necessity; and he and I
Will keep a league till death."

A TYRANT DISTRUSTS.

For somehow, there is this disease in tyranny, not to put confidence in friends.

So Shakespeare ("Pericles," act i. sc. 2)—

"Tyrants' fears
Decrease not, but grow faster with their years."

EASY TO GIVE ADVICE TO THE AFFLICTED.

'Tis easy for any man who has his foot unentangled by sufferings both to exhort and to admonish him that is in difficulties.

AFFLICTION.

Hence in the same way does affliction, roaming to and fro, settle down on different individuals.

TRUTH.

And thou shalt know that these words are sincere, and not the false glozings of a flattering tongue.

TO KICK AGAINST THE PRICKS.

If thou takest me for thy instructor, thou wilt not kick against the pricks.

PETULANT TONGUE.

What! knowest thou not as certain, highly intelligent though thou art, that punishment is inflicted on a petulant tongue?

SOFT SPEECH TURNETH AWAY WRATH.

Oc. Knowest thou not this, then, Prometheus, that words are the physicians of a distempered mind?

Prom. True, if one soften properly the heart, and do not with rude violence exasperate the troubled mind.

So Milton ("Samson Agonistes")—

"Apt words have power to suage
The tumors of a troubled mind."

And Proverbs (xv. 1)—"A soft answer turneth away wrath, but grievous words stir up anger."

THE WISE.

Since it is of the highest advantage for one that is wise not to seem to be wise.

MAN IN A BARBAROUS STATE.

But as to the ills of men, hear how I made those, who were before senseless as children, intelligent and possessed of wisdom. I shall tell you, not with the view of throwing blame upon them, but to show my kindly feelings from what I gave them; who at first seeing, saw not, and hearing, heard not. But like to the baseless fabric of a dream, for a long time they used to huddle together all things at random: naught they knew about brick-built houses, sun-ward, nor the raftered roof; but, like tiny ants, they dwelt in the excavated earth, in sunless depths of caves. They had no certain sign of winter, or flower-perfumed spring, or fruitful summer; but they did everything without judgment till I instructed them to mark the rising of the stars and their setting, a harder science yet. And verily I discovered for them numbers, the most surprising of all inventions, and the union of letters, and memory, the active mother of all wisdom. I also first taught the patient steer to bear the yoke; and in order with their bodies they might assist mortals in their severest toils, I taught steeds to whirl cars obedient to the reins, to grace the pride of wealth. And no one else than I invented the canvas-winged chariots of mariners that roam over the ocean.

So Matthew (xiii. 14)—“And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive.”

NECESSITY.

Necessity is stronger far than art.

PLEASURES OF HOPE.

It is pleasant to lengthen out a long life with confident hopes, making the spirits swell with bright merriment.

FEEBLENESS OF MORTALS.

Sawest thou not the powerless weakness, like a dream, in which the blind race of men is entangled? Never at any time shall the plans of mortals get the better of the harmonious system of Jove.

REWARD OF SYMPATHY.

Since to weep and lament over misfortunes, when it draws the sympathizing tear, brings no light recompense.

So Shakespeare (Poems)—

“Companionship in woe, doth woe assuage.”

THE SICK.

To the sick, indeed, some gleam of hope flows from a clear knowledge beforehand of the result of their pains.

MARRY IN YOUR OWN RANK.

Wise was the man, ay, wise indeed, who first weighed well this maxim, and with his tongue published it abroad, that to marry in one's own class is best by far, and that a peasant should woo the hand neither of any that have waxed wanton by riches, nor of such as pride themselves in high-traced lineage.

THE WISH IS FATHER TO THE THOUGHT.

Thou indeed art predicting against Jove the things thou wishest.

Shakespeare ("Henry IV.," Pt. ii. act iv. sc. 4) says—

"Thy wish was father, Harry, to that thought."

DEAF AS THE BILLOWS.

Thou troublest me with thy advice as vainly as thou wouldst do the billows.

Shakespeare ("Merchant of Venice," act iv. sc. 1) says—

"You may as well go stand upon the beach,
And bid the main flood bate his usual height."

And Milton ("Samson Agonistes")—

"*Dalilah*. I see thou art implacable, more deaf
To prayers than winds or seas."

OBSTINACY.

For obstinacy in a man that is not gifted with wisdom, itself by itself, is worth less than nothing.

GOD KNOWS NOT TO BE FALSE.

The mouth of God knows not to utter falsehood, but brings everything to pass.

So Numbers (xxiii. 19)—"God is not a man, that He should lie; neither the son of man, that He should repent; hath He said, and shall He not do it? or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good?" And 2 Corinthians (i. 20)—"For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us."

THE WISE.

For it is base for the wise to err.

THE LOWLY.

For it is unbecoming in inferiors to assume boldness of speech.

VARIOUS ILLS OF MEN.

King of the Pelasgians, various are the ills of men: nowhere canst thou behold the same wing of trouble.

GOD REGARDS THE AFFLICTED.

Look up to him that beholds from on high, the protector of suffering mortals, who address their kindred in suppliant tones, but obtain not what justice demands. Therefore the wrath of Jove, guardian of the suppliant, waits on the groans of the sufferers, and is not to be appeased.

SLANDER.

But every one bears a ready evil tongue against a stranger, and to speak slander is an easy thing.

DANGERS OF BEAUTY.

But I charge you not to disgrace me, as thou art in the bloom of youth that excitest desire. It is not easy to guard the tender ripe fruit; for beasts and men injure it in some way, and winged insects and four-footed animals. Venus proclaims their opening bloom. I say that rapine is their fate, however much they try to avoid it. And on the fair-formed beauty of virgins every one that passes sends forth a melting dart from his eye, overcome by desire.

A PROSPEROUS STATE.

For a state that is prosperous honors the gods.

WOMAN.

Neither in adversity nor in the joys of prosperity may I be associated with womankind; for when woman is joyous, her licence is not to be endured; and when she is in terror, she is a still greater plague to her home and city.

OBEDIENCE.

For obedience, woman, is the mother of success, bringing safety; so says the proverb.

DUTIES OF MEN AND WOMEN IN WAR.

It is for men to present victims and offerings to appease the gods, when the enemy are at the gates; 'tis thine, woman, to hold thy peace, and keep within doors.

THE NOBLE AND BRAVE.

Nobly born and honoring the throne of modesty, hating vaunting language—such an one is wont to be slow at base deeds, and no coward.

TO BE, NOT TO SEEM.

For he does not wish to seem, but to be, the noblest, reaping a rich harvest from a deep furrow in his mind, from which sprout forth excellent counsels. Against such an one I charge thee to send wise and prudent champions. Dreadful is the foe that fears the gods.

IMPIOUS FELLOWSHIP.

Alas! it is a bad omen for the just to be associated with the impious. Indeed in everything naught is worse than wicked fellowship, the fruit of which is fraught with death. For whether a good man happens to have embarked with sailors, whose hearts are hot and full of villany, he perishes with the race abhorred of Heaven, or whether, being righteous, he has fixed his seat amidst citizens inhospitably bent and regardless of the gods, he is struck down by the scourge of the Deity, which falls on all alike, having rightly fallen into the same nets with his countrymen.

AN OLD HEAD ON YOUNG SHOULDERS.

In manhood's vig'rous prime
He bears the providence of age.

THE STARS.

I pray the gods that I may be released from these
toils, slave of a year-long sentry, during which, lying
on my elbows on the roofs of the Atridas, like
a dog, I have contemplated the choir of nightly
stars, radiant rulers that bring winter and summer,
stars shining conspicuously in the firmament, both
when they set and when they rise.

WHAT IS FATED.

Things are as they are and will be brought to
the issue doomed.

TOTTERING OLD AGE.

But we with our aged frame were left inglorious
behind the expedition of those days, propping on
staff our steps like children; for both the marrow
of youth, while it is springing up in our breasts,
is weak as age, and the vigor for war is not yet
attained; very advanced age, too, when its foliage
is withered, totters along its three-footed path,
and in no way superior to a child, flits like a day-
dream.

GOD CHASTENS MAN FOR HIS GOOD.

The man who cheerfully celebrates Jove in tri-
umphal hymns shall ever be crowned with success
—him that guides mortals to wisdom, teaching
them by suffering to remain firm. But even in
slumber the pangs from the memory of ills keep
dripping before the heart, and thus wisdom comes
to the unwilling. 'Tis a gracious gift of the gods,

compulsory as fate, who sit severely on the awful bench.

BE NOT ANXIOUS FOR THE FUTURE.

To those that suffer justice brings wisdom; but for futurity, since it will come, farewell to it. 'Tis but the same with sorrowing beforehand; for the event will come dawning clearly with the morning rays.

GOD PUNISHES THE WICKED.

They feel the stroke of Jove; we may say this, and trace it out exactly; they have fared as they deserved. Some one denied that the gods deigned to care for mortals, who trampled on their laws. Not holy was he who said so; it has come upon the descendants of those who were breathing forth more violently than just a war which they ought not to have dared, while their dwellings were teeming beyond all measure with rich spoils. But may such calm of soul be mine, so as to meet the force of circumstances.

THE IMPIOUS SEEN THROUGH THEIR DISGUISE.

For riches is no bulwark against destruction to the man who has wantonly spurned the great altar of Justice; but wretched Persuasion, preparing intolerable evils for posterity, urges him on, and there is no remedy. Guilt is never hidden, but is seen through her disguise, a light of lurid glare; and like adulterated brass, when proved, is found black by wear and rubbing, fond as a boy to chase the bird light-flitting round. And not a god lends an ear to his prayers, but sweeps away the unrighteous that hath concerned himself with these doings.

THE FATE OF THE WARRIOR.

And Mars, bartering for gold their bodies, and holding the balance in the tug of war, sends to

their friends a small fragment of scorched dust from Troy, to be wept with many tears, filling the urns with light ashes instead of the man. And they sigh while they sing the praises of one as renowned in arms, and another as having fallen gloriously amid the carnage in defence of another's wife. Some one mutters these words in silence, and jealous vexation creeps upon the chieftain sons of Atreus.

MURMURS OF THE PEOPLE.

Dreadful are the murmurs of the people if they be accompanied with hate; but this is the tribute greatness pays for its exalted station.

THE OPPRESSOR.

For the gods are not forgetful of those who cause great slaughter. The black Furies in one short hour hurl to perdition the man who is lucky without righteousness by a sad reverse of fortune, nor does he receive aid from his citizens. For a man to be raised aloft is dangerous, as the thunderbolt of Jove is sure to be launched against him.

NONE BUT THE GODS HAVE UNMIXED HAPPINESS.

Yea, the conflict is well o'er; in the passage of so long a time one might say that some things fall out well, while others are open to complaint; for who save the gods can claim through life's whole course an unmixed happiness?

A FOND WIFE.

For what day is more delightful to woman than that when she opes the gate to her husband returning gloriously from war, preserved by the gods? Bear this message to my husband, that he hasten his long-desired return. May he come

speedily, where he will find a faithful wife in his house, such as he left her, a watch-dog of his home, to his enemies irreconcilable, and in all other points alike, not having effaced one single seal in the long course of years. I have known no delight with other men, nor has there been any slanderous report against my character, any more than brass can be tinged with dyes.

So Shakespeare ("Much Ado about Nothing," act iv. sc. 1) says—

"If I know more of any man alive
Than that which maiden modesty doth warrant,
Let all my sins lack mercy."

And "Winter's Tale," (act iii. sc. 2)—

"If one jot beyond
The bound of honor, or in act or will
That way inclining, hardened be the hearts
Of all that hear me, and my near'st of kin
Cry, Fie! upon my grave."

HAPPY ARE THOSE WHO DIE NOT CHILDLESS.

There is among mankind an old adage, uttered in ancient times, "that it is great happiness to see our children rise around us, not dying childless; but from good fortune often sprouts the bitter fruit of woe to man."

ONE BASE DEED PRODUCES ANOTHER.

For one base deed engenders more like to its own race; but to those swayed by unbending justice a beauteous race still flourishes.

Shelley, in his "Hellas," says—

"Revenge and wrong bring forth their kind,
The foul cubs like their parents are."

JUSTICE.

But justice shines in smoky cottages, and honors the pious. Leaving with averted eyes the

gorgeous glare of gold obtained by polluted hands, she is wont to draw nigh to holiness, not reverencing wealth when falsely stamped with praise, and assigning each deed its righteous doom.

THE HYPOCRITE.

Many are desirous to seem good while they do not what is right. Some are ready to weep with those who weep, though the pang of sorrow reaches not the heart; others join in the joys of others, dressing in forced smiles their unwilling face. But when a man is able to discern character, then it is not possible that the eyes of a man, that only seem with sympathetic tear to show a kindly feeling, should deceive him.

ENVY.

Few men have strength of mind to honor a friend's success without a touch of envy; for that malignant passion clinging to the heart doubles the burden of the man infected by it; he is weighed down by the weight of his own woes, and sighs to see the happiness of others. I speak from experience,—for well do I know, that those who bore in public the semblance of my firmest friends, were but the looking-glass of friendship, the shadow of a shade.

THINGS THAT ARE WELCOME.

I would call my husband a watch-dog of the fold, a saving mainstay of the ship, a foundation pillar of the lofty roof, an only child to a fond parent, welcome as land to the mariner which he has descried beyond his hopes, welcome as day after a night of storms, a gushing rill to a thirsty wayfarer. 'Tis pleasant to escape from all constraint.

The following beautiful paraphrase is given in the *Quarterly Review*:—

“Faithful—as dog, the lonely shepherd’s pride,
True—as the helm, the bark’s protecting guide,
Firm—as the shaft that props the towering dome,
Sweet—as to shipwrecked seaman land and home,
Lovely—as child, a parent’s sole delight,
Radiant—as morn that breaks a stormy night,
Grateful—as stream that in some deep recess
With rills unhopèd the panting traveller bless,
Is he that links with mine his chain of life,
Names himself lord, and deigns to call me wife.”

TO BE FREE FROM EVIL THOUGHTS.

To be without evil thoughts is God’s best gift;
but we must call him happy who has ended life in
prosperity.

THE POPULAR VOICE.

Yet has the popular voice much potency.

THE UNENVIED.

But the unenvied is not of the happy.

BE NOT ELATED.

God from afar looks graciously on him that is
mild in victory; for no one willingly submits to
the yoke of slavery.

MISERY IS THE LOT OF MANKIND.

For there is a limit to the best of health; disease
creeps upon it as a close-adjoining neighbor: and
a man’s destiny holding on a straight course is apt
to dash upon a hidden reef. If timidity fling away
a part of his wealth with a well-measured cast of
the sling, the whole fabric sinks not, though teem-
ing with woe, nor founders the bark beneath the
sea. For often, by Jove’s gracious goodness, the
yearly furrows quell the pangs of hunger.

WHO CAN RECALL LIFE?

But who can recall by charms man's purple streaming blood, when it has once fallen on the ground before his feet? Otherwise Jove would not have put an end to the leech (Esculapius) who could raise the dead. And if fate fixed irrevocably by the gods did not prevent another fate from bringing assistance, I would bring it, and my heart, outstripping my tongue, would have poured forth the tale.

CONTRAST OF AN OLD FAMILY AND AN UPSTART.

If slavery be a man's fate, great is the advantage of having masters of long-established opulence. For they who have reaped a rich harvest unexpectedly are harsh to their slaves in all things, and go beyond the line of right.

PROSPERITY AND ADVERSITY.

Alas for the fate of men! Even in the midst of the highest prosperity a shadow may overturn them; but if they be in adverse fortune, a moistened sponge can blot out the picture.

PROSPEROUS FORTUNE.

All men have boundless wishes for prosperous fortune; none will banish and keep it from their dwelling, saying, "Enter thou no more."

TO KNOW AND TO CONJECTURE ARE NOT THE SAME.

To know and to conjecture differ widely.

TO CIRCUMVENT A FOE UNDER THE FORM OF FRIENDSHIP.

For how could one, conceiving thoughts of vengeance on a foe, achieve the deed more surely

than to bear the form of friendship, encircling him with wiles difficult to overleap?

QUALITIES OF WOMAN.

Wiles and deceit are female qualities.

EXILES.

An exile, I well know, feeds on vain hopes.

SUCCESS WORSHIPPED AS A GOD.

Success! to thee,
As to a god, men bend the knee.

JUSTICE.

The swift stroke of Justice comes down upon some in the noonday light; pain waits on others slowly in the midst of darkness, and the gloom of night overshadows them.

ONE FATE ALIKE TO BOND AND FREE.

For destiny awaits alike the free man and him that trembles at the tyrannous hand of a lord.

DOER MUST SUFFER.

But O ye mighty Fates! grant that, by the will of Jove, it may end as justice requires—"In return for a hostile speech, let a hostile speech be paid back," cries Justice, loudly, as she exacts the debt; "and in return for a murderous blow, let him suffer a murderous blow." "Doer must suffer," thus saith the thrice-old proverb.

THE SOUL LIVES.

My child, the consuming fire of the funeral pile quells not the spirit of the dead, but in after times he shows his wrath. The dead is bewailed, and he who wronged him is discovered.

Shakespeare ("Hamlet," act i. sc. 2) says—

"Foul deeds will rise,
Though all the earth o'erwhelm them, to men's eyes."

WORDS ARE DAGGERS.

This pierced quite through my ears, like a dart.

Shakespeare ("Hamlet," act. iii. sc. 3) says—

"Oh speak to me no more;
These words like daggers enter in mine ears;
No more, sweet Hamlet!"

BLOOD FOR BLOOD.

But it is a law that drops of gore poured upon the ground call for other bloodshed in addition.

So Genesis (ix. 6): "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed."

WHAT IS FOREDOOMED.

That which is foredoomed remains from the olden time, and will come to those who pray for it.

CHILDREN.

For children preserve the fame of the dead with surviving glory, and are like corks that buoy the net, saving the flaxen line from sinking to the bottom.

MURDER CANNOT BE EXPIATED.

For though one were to pour out every kind of libation for a single murder, vain is the labor; so runs the proverb.

THE DARING SPIRIT OF MAN.

One may describe creatures that fly and those that crawl, and the fierce rage of hurricanes, but who can describe the arrogant daring of man and of woman of hardened spirit, and their loves, leading them to endure everything, even the utmost

woes of mortals. Unholy love, lording it in female heart, overcomes the conjugal union of brutes and of men.

MISERY OF MAN.

None of mortals can hope to live unscathed a life through its whole course, free from misfortunes. Alas! alas! of troubles one is just upon us, and another will come.

FURIES.

Away! I bid you off with speed from these abodes; out from the oracular shrines, lest, having received the winged swift snake (arrow) hurled from the golden-twisted string, you disgorge with pain the black gore you sucked from men, vomiting the clots of blood which you have drawn from them. It is in every way unbecoming to enter these abodes of mine; go where heads are wrenched from the body and eyes are gouged, to revengeful deeds and slaughters, maiming of boys and stonings, and where those impaled by the spine groan with loud yellings. Ye hags abhorred, these are the feasts in which you delight; your execrable form is proof of this. It is right that such should inhabit the dens of the blood-ravening lion, but not to tarry in these prophetic shrines with impure tread. Of such a herd the gods disdain to take the charge.

THE INNOCENT AND THE IMPIOUS.

No vindictive rage from us (the Furies) comes stealthily on him whose hands are free from guilt, but he passes through life without harm. Whereas whoever, like this man, commits crimes and hides his ruffian hands, we are close at hand as witnesses of the deed, appearing as avengers of blood.

THE MURDERER.

For avenging Fate has assigned us (the Furies) this office, saying, "Let those guilty of murders without provocation be pursued till they find refuge in the realms below;" even when dead they are not quite free. But over the victims let this be the song, bringing madness, distracting, mind-destroying, the hymn of the Furies, that charms minds without the lyre, causing shrivelling to mortals.

HEAR BOTH PARTIES.

He hears but half that hears one party only.

SORROW.

'It is good to grow wise under sorrow.

THE INIQUITIES OF THE FATHERS VISITED ON THE CHILDREN.

For the Fates have assigned them (the Furies) a despotic sway over men in all things; he who feels their terrors, knows not whence come the ills of life; for the sire's long-passed crimes bring chastening on their sons, and amidst his thoughts of greatness silent ruin with hostile wrath crushes him.

THE MASTER THE EYE OF THE HOUSE.

For I deem the presence of the master to be the eye of the house.

MEN ARE A SUFFICIENT BULWARK.

For while there are men, there is a sure bulwark.

THE AFFLICTED FEAR ALL THINGS.

My friends, whoever has experienced misfortunes knows that when a mountain-wave of ills

comes upon mortals, they are wont to fear all things; but when the gale of fortune blows smoothly, they are confident that the same deity will constantly propel their bark with a favorable breeze.

THE LOT OF MEN MUST BE BORNE.

Human misfortunes must befall mankind. For afflictions rise, many from sea, and many from land, if life be measured through a lengthened course.

So Job (v. 7)—“Yet man is born to trouble, as the sparks fly upward.”

THE DOOMED.

But when a man is rushing on the road to destruction, God also lends a hand.

OPPRESSION.

How unbecoming it is for one that is mortal to entertain proud aspiring thoughts; for presumption, when it has put forth the blade, is wont to produce for fruit an all-mournful harvest of woe.

VOICELESS LAW.

Thou seest voiceless law, which is not seen by thee while thou sleepest, walkest, and sittest, but which accompanies thee now sideways, now behind. For the darkness of night does not conceal thy evil deeds, but whatsoever crime thou hast committed, doubt not some one has seen it.

THE MIGHTY POWER OF GOD.

O Jupiter! father Jupiter! thine is the mighty power of heaven; thou lookest on the villanous and lawless acts of the celestials and of men; it belongs to thee to watch the violence of, and pass sentence on, the deeds of savage beasts.

A PROSPEROUS FOOL.

A senseless fool in prosperity is certainly a heavy burden.

So Proverbs (xxx. 22)—“A fool, when he is filled with meat.”

THE RESULT OF INDULGENCE IN WINE.

Bronze is the mirror to reflect the face, wine to reflect the mind.

WORDS.

Words are the cause of senseless wrath.

So Proverbs (xv. 1)—“A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.”

OATHS.

Oaths are not the cause why a man is believed, but the character of the man is the cause why the oath is believed.

THE DISTRESSED.

God loves to assist those in distress.

So Psalms (xliv. 1)—“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”

THE WICKED IN PROSPERITY.

The wicked in prosperity are not to be borne.

So Psalms (x. 2)—“The wicked in his pride doth persecute the poor: let them be taken in the devices that they have imagined.”

THE RACE OF MAN.

For the race of man has thoughts that last merely for a day, and are no more real than the shadows of smoke.

So Psalms (cii. 3)—“For my days are consumed like smoke, and my bones are burned as an hearth.”

FORTUNE.

Fortune, thou beginning and end of mortals! it is thou that bestowest the glory of wisdom on human works; and the good more than the bad spring from thee. Beauty and grace shine around thy golden wing; and whatever is weighed by thy scales is most blessed. In the midst of distresses thou pointest the way out of difficulties; thou sheddest a bright light in darkness, thou most excellent of divinities.

MAN DIES ONLY AT HIS FATAL MOMENT.

But neither does any one, however many wounds he may have received, die, unless he has run his allotted term of life; nor does any man, though he sits quietly by the fireside under his own roof, escape the more his fated doom.

So Job (vii. 1)—“Is there not an appointed time to man upon earth? are not his days also like the days of an hireling?”

HATRED OF DEATH NOT JUST.

Men do not with justice hate death, which is a mighty remedy for many woes.

THE INDUSTRIOUS.

Glory, begotten of labor, is a debt owed by the gods to the man who works laboriously.

So Proverbs (xiii. 11)—“He that gathers by labor shall increase.”

POWER AND JUSTICE.

When power and justice unite, what stronger pair is there than this?

DEATH TO BE PREFERRED TO A LIFE OF WICKEDNESS.

Death is more desirable than a wicked life. And not to be born is better than to lead a disgraceful life.

DEATH SPURNS GIFTS.

Death alone of the gods cares not for gifts, nor wilt thou accept sacrifices nor libations. No altar is erected to thee, nor is any hymn sung to thy praise. Persuasion stands aloof from thee alone of the gods.

DEATH THE PHYSICIAN.

O thou savior Death! do not despise me coming to thee, for thou alone art the physician of incurable woes; no sorrow reaches the dead.

JUSTICE WATCHES OVER THE DEAD.

If thou wishest to do good or ill to the dead, thou hast in both ways those who have neither joy nor sorrow; yet recollect that there is an avenging goddess superior to us, and justice feels a jealousy over the character of the dead.

 ALCÆUS.

ALCÆUS, of Mitylene, one of the greatest lyric poets of Greece, flourished about the beginning of the 6th century B.C.

BRAVE MEN THE BEST BULWARK OF A CITY.

It is not the stones of a city, well built in, but brave men, that are the bulwark of a city.

 ALEXIS.

FLOURISHED B.C. 356.

ALEXIS, a native of Thurii, in Italy, was the uncle of the celebrated Menander, and one of the principal writers of the middle comedy. He

flourished B.C. 356, and continued to exhibit till B.C. 306, being upwards of one hundred years old when he died. He wrote 245 plays, of which Athenæus gives the titles of 113.

SEEK AND WE SHALL FIND.

All that thou seekest may be found, if thou shrinkest not nor fliest from labor. For since some have discovered things in heaven, though they are far removed, such as the rising and setting of the stars, the solstices and eclipses of the sun, what common things that are connected with man here below, should be able to escape his search?

THE CHANGES OF LIFE.

This life is like a game played with dice—the same figures do not always turn up: so, too, life has not always the same shape, but is ever changing.

MAN RESEMBLES WINE.

The nature of man is in some respects very much resembling wine. For, like new wine, the youthful mind requires to have its fermentation thrown off, and its roughness skimmed; but when its excessive violence has abated, and the fury, which swam on the top, has disappeared, then it becomes drinkable, and settles down, continuing pleasant to all future time.

TRUST DEEDS, NOT OATHS.

The wise ought not to trust the oaths of men, but always their deeds.

THE EVENING OF LIFE.

For now my life is approaching its evening.

SLEEP.

Neither mortal nor immortal, but having a certain composite nature, so as to live neither the life of man nor of the gods, but to be always springing up anew, and again perishing, invisible to the eye, but known to all.—*B.* Thou always lovest, *O* woman, to speak in riddles.—*A.* Nay, I speak plainly, and in the utmost simplicity.—*B.* Who, then, can this youngster be with such a nature?—*A.* Sleep, my good girl, the soother of the labors of man.

“RICHES TAKE UNTO THEMSELVES WINGS.”

Regard riches as the last of the good things of this life, for they are the least certain of the things we possess: other things remain with those who possess them in a moderate degree.

WOMAN DIFFICULT TO BE GUARDED.

Neither walls nor goods nor anything is more difficult to be guarded than woman.

PLEASURE.

Fly pleasure, which at last brings loss.

THE DREGS OF LIFE ARE LIKE VINEGAR.

Our life has great resemblance to wine; when little of it remains, it becomes vinegar: for all human ills proceed to old age as to a workshop.

AMPHIS.

FLOURISHED ABOUT B.C. 332.

AMPHIS, a poet of the middle comedy, flourished about B.C. 332. We have the titles of twenty-six of his plays.

ART.

There is no sweeter consolation in misfortune than the pursuit of art; for the mind employed in acquiring it sails secretly past its mishaps.

EAT, DRINK, AND BE MERRY.

Drink, be merry! life is mortal, the time on earth is short; death is immortal when we are once dead.

A MAN IN DISTRESS.

Apollo, how ill to please is man in distress and annoyed by everything.

SILENCE.

There is nothing more powerful than silence.

ANACREON.

FLOURISHED B.C. 559-525.

ANACREON, one of the most celebrated of the Greek lyric poets, was a native of Teos, in Asia Minor, respecting whom we have few facts on which we can depend. He was the contemporary of Cyrus, Cambyzes, and Polycrates of Samos, at whose court we find him, B.C. 531, enjoying high favor, and singing the praises of the tyrant. We next hear of him at the court of Hipparchus at Athens, B.C. 525, where he met the poet Simonides. He died at the age of eighty-five, being choked, as the story goes, by a cherry-stone. Except that he was a voluptuary, and spent his time in singing the praises of love, we know little else respecting his private history. There were five books of Anacreon's poems in the time of Suidas, who is

supposed to have lived in the eleventh century, but of these only a few extracts have been preserved. We have given a few extracts from his odes, though it is supposed that they may be of a later date than the time of Anacreon.

THE BEAUTY OF WOMEN.

Nature has given horns to bulls, hoofs to horses, swiftness to hares, the power of swimming to fishes, of flying to birds, understanding to men. She had nothing more for women. What then does she give? Beauty, which can resist shields and spears. She who is beautiful, is stronger than iron and fire.

LIFE PASSES SWIFTLY AWAY.

For like the chariot's wheel life runs fast away. A little dust we lie, when our body has sunk in dissolution.

ENJOY THE PRESENT.

Since I was born a mortal, to pass over the beaten track of life, the road I have often passed, I know; what I have to run over, of that I am unacquainted. Teasing cares, leave me alone! What have I to do with you? Before my last hour shall come, I shall play, I shall laugh, I shall dance with the fair Lyceus.

So Luke (xii. 19)—“Take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry;” and (xv. 23)—“Let us eat and be merry.”

ADVANTAGES OF WINE.

When I quaff wine, my cares are lulled to rest. What have I to do with labors, woes, or cares? Die I must, whether I will or no. Why should I wander through life? Let us then quaff the wine of fair Lyceus. With it our cares are forgotten.

GOLD.

In consequence of gold there are no brothers, no parents, but wars and murders arise from it. And what is worse, for it we lovers are bought and sold.

OLD AGE.

Now we have gray temples, and a white head; no longer is graceful youth present, but decayed teeth; no longer is there remaining much time of pleasant life. Therefore, often do I drop the tear, dreading Tartarus. The gulf of Hades is terrific, and the way to it painful, for it is not for man, once down, to reascend.

ANAXANDRIDES.

FLOURISHED B.C. 376.

ANAXANDRIDES, a writer of the middle comedy, was a native of the city Camirus, in Rhodes, or, according to others, of Colophon, in Ionia. He flourished B.C. 376, and was exhibiting his dramatic pieces till B.C. 347, when he was present at the celebration of the Olympia at Dium by Philip, king of Macedon. He is said to have been the first to lay the foundation of a vicious stage by the introduction of love scenes and intrigues. If his play was unsuccessful, he used to consign it as waste paper to the performers, and never deigned to retouch it, as other authors were in the habit of doing (Athen. ix. 374, a.). His death is said to have been caused by the following circumstance: Euripides had said in one of his tragedies, "Nature has wished it so, who regards not laws." Anaxandrides parodied the verse by substituting "the city" instead of "nature." The Athenians

condemned him to die by starvation (Suidas). Athenæus mentions the names of twenty-two of his comedies.

OLD AGE.

Old age is not, father, the heaviest of burdens, as thou thinkest; but whoever bears it unwisely, he is the party who makes it so; if he bears it without grumbling, he sometimes in this way lulls it asleep, dexterously changing its character, taking away pain and substituting pleasure, but making it pain if he is peevish.

A BLABBER.

Whoever receiving a statement in confidence proceeds to repeat it, is a scoundrel, or very leaky. If he does it for personal gain, he is a scoundrel; and if he does so without a personal object he is leaky: both characters are equally bad.

PLEASURE.

Don't make thyself a slave to pleasure. That is the act of a lewd woman, not of a man.

DEATH.

It is good to die before a man has done anything worthy of death.

ANONYMOUS.

GOOD SPIRITS.

Round thy fiery throne stand labor-loving angels, whose business it is that all things be accomplished for men.

EVIL SPIRITS.

(God) whom the devils fear, and the multitude of gods regard with awe.

“CAST YOUR CARE UPON GOD.”

Cast all thy care upon the gods: they often raise men from misfortunes, who are lying on the dark earth: and again, often overthrow those who are enjoying the height of prosperity.

So 1 Peter (v. 7)—“Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

GOD IS ALL-WISE.

God always directs all things and lives in himself, since he is wisdom itself.

GOD IS HOLY.

God differs from the good man this much, that God is virtue pure and uncorrupted, free from all human weakness.

So Revelation (xv. 4)—“For thou only art holy.”

GOD IS ALL-WISE.

God always directs all things and lives in himself, since he is wisdom itself.

So Romans (xvi. 27)—“To God, only wise, be glory.”

GOD.

God is mind and spirit; and the ruler of the whole mass of the universe. God can neither be seen nor perceived by any sense, but is only comprehended by words and the mind's eye. But his works and what he does are evident, and perceived by all men.

So Corinthians (ii 14)—“Even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the spirit of God. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the spirit of God. Neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.”

Dionysius Cato says—"If God be a spirit, as our poets say, he is to be specially worshipped with a pure mind."

St. John (iv. 24)—"God is a spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

FRIENDS AND ENEMIES.

We must treat our friend kindly, that he may be still more a friend, but make our enemy our friend.

So Romans (xii. 20)—"Therefore, if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head."

ONE GOD.

There is one self-existing being; everything that is generated is produced by him alive, and there is no one that rules except the Almighty king.

So Ephesians (iv. 6)—"One God and father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all."

HOLINESS TO THE LORD.

"He who enters within the precincts of the temple full of incense ought to be holy: holiness is to have holy thoughts." This is the inscription in the Temple at Epidaurus.

GOD SEEN BY NONE.

No mortal sees God, but he sees all.

So Exodus (xx. 21)—"But Moses drew near unto the thick darkness where God was."

CONSCIENCE IS A GOD.

Conscience is a God to all men.

Seneca (Ep. 41), says much to the same effect:—"There is a sacred spirit seated within us, the observer and guardian of

what is good and bad to us ; he, according as he is treated by us, so he treats us."

So Romans (ix 1)—" I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost."

ANGER.

Anger often has revealed the concealed thoughts of men much more effectually than madmen.

FORCE WITHOUT PRUDENCE.

Force attended by wisdom is very advantageous, but ruinous apart; it brings calamity.

CHILDREN.

A child is either a cause of fear or grief during the whole of life.

INEXORABLE NECESSITY.

For inexorable necessity has power over man; it has no dread of the immortals, who have houses in Olympus away from sad grief.

OLD AGE.

When thou hast got past the sixtieth sun, O Gryllus, die and become ashes; how dark is the angel of life after that! for now the light of life is dimmed.

NO ONE ALWAYS HAPPY.

It is best for mortals not to be born, nor to see the light of the sun. No one is fortunate all his life.

OLD AGE AND MARRIAGE.

Old age and marriage have a great resemblance to each other, for we are in a hurry to obtain both; and when we have obtained them, then we are grieved.

HEALTH.

Health! thou most august of the blessed goodnesses, with thee may I spend the remainder of my life; mayest thou benignly dwell with me; for if there be any pleasure to be derived from riches, or children, or royal power making men equal to the gods, or longing desire, which we hunt after with the secret nets of Venus, or if there be any other delight bestowed on men by the gods, or respite from pains, with thee, blessed Health, all these flourish and beam effulgent like the spring arising from the graces: without thee, no one is happy.

GOD IS SLOW IN PUNISHING.

Such is the way that God punishes, not on every occasion as a mortal man, who is quick in temper. Whoever commits transgression is not altogether forgotten, but in every case is found out at last. He punishes one immediately, another at a later period; if they escape, and approaching fate does not come hastily upon them, it comes in every case at last; either their children or their distant posterity suffer for their deeds, though themselves guiltless.

So Sirach (v. 5)—“Say not, I have sinned, and what harm happened to me? for the Lord is long-suffering, He will in no way let thee go.”

ANTIPHANES.

BORN ABOUT B.C. 404—DIED ABOUT B.C. 330.

ANTIPHANES, the most highly esteemed writer of the middle comedy, of whose personal history we know nothing. We still possess the titles of about 130 of his plays; but in all they are said to

have been 365, or at least 260, as some of the plays ascribed to him were by other writers.

NOT LOST, BUT GONE BEFORE.

We should lament in moderation the loss of our friends, for they are not dead, but have gone before the same road which we must all necessarily pass; then we also will hereafter come to the same place with them, spending eternity in their company.

This idea is often referred to by Seneca—

(Con. Marc. 39) —“Let us think that they are absent, and let us deceive ourselves. . . . We have sent them away, nay, we have sent them before, about to follow them.” Again (Epist. 99)—“He has been sent before, whom those thinkest to have perished.” Again (Con Polyb., 28)—“Thou art mistaken, etc. Why do we bemoan what is fated? He has not left us, but gone before.” Again (Epist. 63)—“And perhaps, if only the idea of the wise is true, and some place receive us after death, he whom we think to have perished has been sent before us.”

So E. Elliot (“The Excursion”)—

“The buried are not lost, but gone before.”

“THIS NIGHT THY SOUL SHALL BE REQUIRED OF
THEE.”

No one, master, has ever died who was ready to die; but Charon draws by the legs to his ferry-boat those who are desirous to live, and carries them off in the midst of their banquetings, and with everything around them richly to enjoy. It is hunger that is the medicine for immortality.

OLD AGE.

O old age! how desired thou art by all, how happy thou art thought to be! then, when thou comest, how sad, how full of sorrow; no one speaks well of thee, every one ill of thee, if he speaks with wisdom.

RICHES AND POVERTY.

Riches are a cloak for ills, O mother; poverty is transparent and abject.

THE UPRIGHT.

He who commits no crime requires no law.

UNRIGHTEOUS GAINS.

Unjust gains give short-lived pleasures, but afterwards lengthened griefs.

So Proverbs (xvi. 8)—“Better is a little with righteousness, than great revenues without right.”

THE ACQUISITION OF WEALTH DEADENS THE SENSE OF RIGHT AND WRONG.

How unhappy thou art, to whom the base appears preferable to the honorable for the sake of gain; for the acquiring of riches darkens the sense of right and wrong!

MORTALITY OF MAN.

My best of friends, if thou art mortal, think of thy mortality.

A GOOD CONSCIENCE.

To be conscious to one's self of having committed no unjust act throughout life is the cause of much pleasure.

DILIGENCE.

All things are subservient to diligence.

HABITS OF HONOR.

Habits of justice are a most valuable possession.

A SLAVE.

To a slave deprived of his country, I think a good master is his country.

PLEASURES OF LOVE.

If any one says that those in love have no sense, he is certainly stupid and good for nothing; for if we take away the pleasures of love from life, there is nothing left but to die.

WOMAN TO BE TRUSTED ONLY IN ONE THING.

One thing only do I believe in a woman, that she will not come to life again after she is dead; in everything else I distrust her till she is dead.

MIND AND BODY.

Think not about decking thy body with ornaments, but thy heart with pure thoughts and habits.

HONEST POVERTY AND UNJUST GAIN.

It is better to be poor with honor than to be rich through unjust means; the one brings pity, the other censure.

GRIEF.

Grief seems to be next neighbor to madness.

OLD AGE.

Old age is, as it were, the altar of ills; we may see them all taking refuge in it.

MARCUS ANTONINUS, OR AURELIUS.

BORN A.D. 121—DIED A.D. 180.

MARCUS ANTONINUS, OR MARCUS AURELIUS, the sixteenth Emperor of Rome in succession from Augustus, was descended from a family which pretended to trace its origin to Numa, and to be

connected with a king of the Salentini, in the south of Italy, called Malemnus, who had founded the city Lupiæ, now *Lecce*. His more immediate ancestors, however, had come from the small municipal town Succubo, in Spain, and had by their industry and abilities reached the highest dignities in Rome. His father was Annius Verus, the friend of the Emperor Adrian, and his mother was Domitia Calvilla, daughter of Calvisius Tullus, who had been twice consul. Marcus Antoninus was born at Rome, 20th April A.D. 121, in the fifth year of Adrian's reign. He was placed by his grandfather under the ablest masters which Rome could supply, and he seems to have been of a disposition which led him to take pleasure in every intellectual pursuit. Philosophy, in all her various ramifications, was his delight from his earliest years; and while he was scarcely twelve years old, he was so earnest in its pursuit that he began to practice some of those foolish austerities which the Stoics were in the habit of recommending. He insisted on being allowed to sleep on the ground; and it required all the authority of his mother to make him forego his boyish freak. He received instruction from Herodes Atticus, Corn. Fronto, Sextus of Chæroneia the grandson of Plutarch, Apollonius, the friend of Antoninus Pius; and even after he had ascended the throne he did not consider it beneath his dignity to attend the public lectures of the philosophers. From the connection of his father with Adrian, he attracted at an early period the attention of the emperor. Adrian adopted Antoninus Pius, A.D. 138, only on condition that he should admit into his family his young friend, Annius Verus, and Lucius Verus, the son of that Ælius Verus who had been selected by Adrian to succeed him. He

was at this time only eighteen, and seems, by his respectful conduct, soon to have won the heart of his adopted father, who gave him the name of Marcus Aurelius, by which he is generally known in history. As soon as Antoninus succeeded to the throne, he raised Aurelius to the dignity of Cæsar; and though he had been betrothed to the daughter of L. Cejonius Commodus, he prevailed on him to forego his engagement, and marry his youngest daughter, Annia Faustina, who became soon equally profligate as her mother. During the whole of the reign of Antoninus, Aurelius lived in the most complete state of harmony with his father-in-law, and on his deathbed was appointed to succeed him. He ascended the throne, A.D. 161, in the fortieth year of his age. On his accession to the throne his history is merged in that of the Roman Empire, which was then beginning to be attacked on all sides by the neighboring nations. The Parthians, in the East, first attracted his attention; and no sooner were they compelled to submit, than a still more formidable war broke out on the side of Germany. Though his time was much occupied with state affairs, his greatest pleasure was derived from philosophy and literature. Music, poetry, and painting were not forgotten; and the severer sciences of mathematics and law engaged no small part of his attention. With the exception of a few letters which were found in the recently-discovered remains of Fronto, the only work of Marcus which has come down to us is a volume composed in Greek,—a kind of commonplace book, in which he put down from time to time his thoughts and feelings upon moral and religious subjects, together with remarkable maxims which he had culled from writers distinguished for wisdom and virtue. The great-

est blot on his memory is the severity with which he treated the Christians; and it is the more difficult to understand the reason of his conduct, as it is altogether at variance with his general principles as laid down in his "Meditations."

MAN FORMED OF BODY, SOUL, AND SPIRIT.

Whatever I am, I am formed of body, breath, and spirit; wherefore, as if thou wast now dying, abstain from fleshly lusts.

So 1 Peter (ii. 11)—"Abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul."

THE PRESENT IS THE TIME FOR REFORMATION OF CHARACTER.

Thou must now at last perceive of what universe thou formest a part, and of what ruler of the universe thou art an efflux; and that a term of time is allotted to thee, which if thou dost not use for clearing away the clouds from thy mind, it will go and thou wilt go, and it will not again return.

So 2 Corinthians (vi. 2)—"Behold now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation."

DO EVERYTHING AS IF IT WERE THE LAST ACT OF THY LIFE.

See that thou devote thyself zealously, as a Roman and a man of energy, to every work that thou mayest have on hand, with scrupulous and unfeigned dignity of character, with love of the human race, independence, and a strict adherence to justice, and withdraw thyself from all other thoughts. Thou wilt give thyself relief if thou doest every act of this life as if it were the last.

LIFE THE SAME TO ALL.

Though thou wert about to live three thousand years, and as many myriads, yet thou oughtest never to forget that no man loses any other portion of life than that which he is living at the moment, nor does he live any other than that which he now loses. Therefore the longest life comes to the same point with the shortest, since the present time is equal to all, and therefore what is lost is equal to all. For a man cannot lose either the past or the future.

EVERYTHING IS MERE OPINION.

Everything is mere opinion.

LIFE A WARFARE.

And to say everything in the shortest compass, everything which belongs to the body is a stream, and what belongs to the soul is a dream and vapor; life is a warfare, and a stranger's sojourn, and after-fame is oblivion. What is that, then, which is able to conduct a man? One thing, and only one, philosophy.

So James (iv. 14)—“For what is your life? it is even a vapor.”

MAN SHOULD STAND ERECT.

Be cheerful also, and seek not external help, nor the tranquillity which others give. A man then must stand erect, not be kept erect by others.

AN UPRIGHT MAN NEVER UNPREPARED TO LEAVE
LIFE.

In the mind of a man that is chastened and purified thou wilt find nothing foul, impure, or any sore skinned over; nor will fate ever overtake him—

in a state of being that is imperfect, just as one may say of a tragic actor who leaves the stage before he has finished his part.

THE LONGEST POSTHUMOUS FAME IS SHORT.

Short, too, the longest posthumous fame, and even this only continued by a succession of poor human beings, who will very soon die, and who know not even themselves, much less him who died long ago.

THE VANITY OF ALL THINGS.

But perhaps the love of fame may torment thee. Consider how soon all things will be buried in forgetfulness, and what a bottomless chaos exists on both sides of thee; how vain is the applause of the world, how changeable the opinions of the mob of mankind, and how utterly devoid of judgment they are; in short, within how narrow a space this fame, of which thou art so greedy, is circumscribed. For the whole earth is a point, and how small a nook in it is thy dwelling, and how few are there in it, and what kind of people are they who will praise thee?

DEATH AND BIRTH EQUALLY A MYSTERY.

Death is something like the birth of man, equally a mystery of nature, a composition out of the same elements, and a decomposition into the same; and nothing at all of which any one need be ashamed, for it is not contrary to the nature of a reasonable animal, and not contrary to the reason of our constitution.

DEATH IS ALWAYS IMPENDING.

Do not act as if thou wert about to live ten thousand years. Death is impending. While

thou enjoyest life, and while thou mayest, be good and upright.

PREDESTINATION.

Has any good fortune befallen thee? It has been predestinated to thee from the beginning of the world, and whatever happens has been so fated.

NOTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN.

Consider, for example, and thou wilt find that almost all the transactions in the time of Vespasian differed little from those of the present day. Thou there findest marrying and giving in marriage, educating children, sickness, death, war, joyous holidays, traffic, agriculture, flatterers, insolent pride, suspicions, laying of plots, longing for the death of others, newsmongers, lovers, misers, men canvassing for the consulship and for the kingdom;—yet all these passed away, and are nowhere.

So Ecclesiastes (i. 9)—“The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done, is that which shall be done; and there is no new thing under the sun.”

WHAT IS AN ETERNAL REMEMBRANCE?

And what is even an eternal remembrance? A mere empty nothing. What is it, then, about which we ought to employ our serious thoughts? This one thing, thoughts just and acts social, words that never are false, a disposition that gladly submits to whatever happens, as necessary, as usual, as flowing from a principle and source of the same kind.

DESCRIPTION OF TIME.

Time is like a river, made up of the things which happen, and a torrent; for as soon as a

thing has been seen, then it is carried off and another comes in its place, and this will be carried away also.

RISE CONTENTED FROM THE FEAST OF LIFE.

To conclude, see how ephemeral and worthless human things are, and what was yesterday a little mucus, to-morrow will be a mummy or ashes. Pass, then, through this little space of time suitably to nature, and end thy journey in content, just as an olive falls off when it is ripe, blessing nature who produced it, and thanking the tree on which it grew.

So Philippians (iv. 11)—“I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.”

NOTHING PERISHES UTTERLY.

I consist of figure and matter: neither of these will be annihilated, as neither of them were created from nothing. Therefore, every part of me, when a change shall take place, will go into something else in the world, and this again will be changed into some other thing, and so on *ad infinitum*.

MAN IS AS HIS MIND.

Such as are thy habitual thoughts, such also will be the character of thy mind; for the soul is dyed by the thoughts.

THE REAL WORTH OF MAN.

Be aware, therefore, that every man is worth just so much as the things are worth about which he busies himself.

OBLIVION OF ALL THINGS.

The time is at hand when thou wilt forget and be forgotten by all.

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES.

It is the duty of men to love even those who injure them.

EVERYTHING IN CHANGE.

Nature, which rules the universe, will soon change all things which thou seest, and out of their substance will make other things, and again other things from the substance of them, that the world may ever be fresh.

OBEY GOD AND LOVE THY NEIGHBOR.

Be simple and modest in deportment, and treat with indifference whatever lies between virtue and vice. Love the human race; obey God.

WHAT HAS BEEN WILL BE.

Look at the past—at the innumerable changes of governments. Thou mayest thus conjecture with safety as to the future, for they will be altogether alike, and it will not be possible for them to deviate from the order of the things which are at present. Wherefore, to contemplate human life for forty years is the same as to have contemplated it for ten thousand years. For what more wilt thou see?

GOD IS MERCIFUL.

The gods, being immortal, are not annoyed, because during so long a time they are obliged to endure men such as they are, and so many of them bad; and, besides this, they also take care of them in all ways.

So Psalm (ciii. 8)—“The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.”

THE LIAR.

He, too, who transgresses her will (*i.e.*, who lies) is clearly guilty of impiety to the eldest of goddesses, for the universal nature is the nature of things that are, and things that are have an intimate relation to all things that come into existence. Moreover, that universal nature is called truth, and is the first cause of all things that are true. He, therefore, who lies intentionally, acts with impiety, inasmuch as he acts unjustly by deceiving, and he also who lies unintentionally, inasmuch as he is at variance with universal nature, fighting against the nature of the universe; for he fights against it who is borne of himself to that which is contrary to truth, for he had received powers from nature, through the neglect of which he is not able to distinguish falsehood from truth.

DEATH.

Do not despise death, but receive it with gladness, as one of those things which nature wills. For as it is to be young and to grow old, to increase in size and reach maturity, to have teeth, a beard, and gray hairs, and to beget and to be pregnant, and to bring forth, and all other operations which the seasons of thy life bring, such also is thy dissolution.

DEATH.

O death! mayest thou approach quickly, lest perchance I too should forget myself.

THE WRONG-DOER.

He who does wrong, does wrong against himself; he who acts unjustly, acts unjustly to himself by making himself bad.

So John (viii. 34)—“Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.”

FORGIVENESS.

If thou art able, correct by teaching those who sin; but if thou art unable, remember that indulgence is given to thee for this purpose; the gods, too, are indulgent to such.

So Matthew (vi. 14)—“For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.”

ALL THINGS ARE THE SAME.

All things are the same, familiar in experience, ephemeral in time, and worthless in matter. Everything now is just as it was in the time of those whom we have buried.

ALL THINGS ARE CHANGING.

All things are changing; and thou thyself art in continuous mutation, and in a manner in constant wasting away; so also is the whole universe.

CHANGES COME LIKE WAVE UPON WAVE.

Soon will the earth cover us all; then, too, the earth will change; and so on things will change forever and ever; for when a man reflects on the changes and transformations which follow one another, like wave upon wave, and their rapidity, he will despise everything that is mortal.

THE VALUE OF A POSTHUMOUS NAME AND REPUTATION.

Look down from above on the countless herds of men and their countless solemnities, their various voyagings in storms and calms, and the contests among those who are born, who live together and die. And consider also the life lived by others in the olden times, and the life of those who will live after thee, and the life now lived among barbarous nations, and how many know not even

thy name, and how many will soon forget it, and how they who are now praising thee will very soon blame thee, and that neither a posthumous name is of any value, nor reputation, nor anything else.

MEN CONSTANTLY PASSING AWAY.

All things which thou seest will soon perish, and those who have looked on them, as they pass away, will themselves soon perish; and he who dies at the extremest old age will be brought into the same condition with him who died prematurely.

WHAT HAPPENS IS PREPARED FROM ALL ETERNITY.

Whatever may happen to thee has been prepared to thee from all eternity; and the concatenation of causes was from eternity spinning the thread of thy being and of that which is incident to it.

WHAT TIME IS.

Let the idea of the whole of time and of the whole of substance be constantly before thy thoughts, and thou wilt find that all individual things as to substance are a grain of fig, and as to time, the turning of a gimlet.

WHAT MEN ARE IN REALITY.

Consider what men are when they are eating, sleeping, generating, easing themselves, and so forth; then what kind of men they are when they bear themselves haughtily, or are angry and scold from their lofty place. And then consider to whom they were slaves a short time ago, and for what things; and then think in what condition they will be after a little time.

THE DRAMAS OF LIFE.

Consider, in a word, how all things, such as they are now, were so formerly, and consider that they

will be so again; and place before thy eyes whole dramas and stages of the same kind, whatever thou hast become acquainted with from thy own experience or from the history of olden times—such as the whole court of Hadrian, and the whole court of Antoninus, and the whole court of Philip, Alexander, and Cræsus, for all these were such dramas as we see at présent, only with different actors.

The following passages, which speak of the drama of life, may serve as parallels to the sentiments of Antoninus (Demophilus, *Similitudines*, *Moralia*, i 10, Orelli opera):—

“Youth is the first part of life, like that of a drama; wherefore all attach themselves to it.”

And again Aristonymus, in Stobæus, cap. cvi. 14 (ed. Meincke, 1855)—

“Life is like a theatre, for the worst often occupy the best place in it.”

And again one of the epigrams of Palladas (*Anthol. Græc.* x. 72)—

Life is a scene, and we are players; either learn to play, forgetting the labors, or suffer the pain of losing.”

Augustus, on his deathbed (Sueton. *Aug.* c. 99), said—
“Whether did they think that he had acted the drama of life in a becoming manner.”

MEN ARE LIKE LEAVES.

Thy children are like leaves. Leaves, too, are they who bawl out as if they were worthy of credit, and give praise, or, in the opposite way, curse, or secretly find fault and sneer; and leaves, likewise, are those who shall receive and transmit a man's fame to aftertimes. For all such things as these “are produced in the season of spring;” then the wind throws them down; then the forest produces others in their stead. But a brief existence is common to all things, yet thou avoidest and formest all things as if they would be eternal. But a little while and thou shalt close thy eyes,

and him who has attended thee to thy grave another soon will lament.

SOME ARE ALWAYS GLAD AT THE DEATH OF ANOTHER.

There is no one so fortunate to whom at his death there are not some who are pleased at the calamity that has happened.

BE PREPARED TO DIE AT ANY MOMENT.

What a soul that is which is ready, if at any moment it must be separated from the body, and ready either to be extinguished or dispersed or continue to exist! but so that this readiness comes from a man's own judgment, not from mere obstinacy, as with the Christians, but considerately and with dignity, and in a way to persuade another, without tragic show.

THE VOICE TO BE WRITTEN ON THE FOREHEAD.

The voice ought to be clearly written on the forehead; according as a man's character is, he shows it forthwith in his eyes, just as he who is beloved reads everything in the eyes of the lover. So, also, ought the upright and good man to be like the strong-smelling goat, so that the bystander, as soon as he comes near, should perceive him, whether he wills it or not. But the affectation of honesty is like a crooked stick. Nothing is more disgraceful than a wolfish friendship. Avoid this most of all. The good, simple, and benevolent, show these feelings in the eyes, and there is no concealment of them.

EVERYTHING LIES NAKED BEFORE GOD.

God sees the minds of all stripped bare of their bodily coverings and pollutions.

MAN'S SELF-LOVE.

I have often wondered how every man loves himself more than all the rest of men, yet sets less value on his own opinion of himself than on the opinion of others.

WHERE ARE NOW MEN OF THE GREATEST FAME?

Bring always to thy remembrance that those who have made great complaints about anything, those who have been most remarkable by the greatest fame, or misfortunes, or enmities, or fortunes of any kind; then consider, where are they all now? Smoke and ash and a tale, or not even a tale.

APOLLODORUS.

FLOURISHED B.C. 290.

APOLLODORUS, a native of Gela, in Sicily, flourished between B.C. 300-260. He was a celebrated comic poet, of whose poetry some fragments have been preserved.

A PLEASANT LIFE.

It is pleasant to lead an idle life; it is a happy and delightful life if it be with other idle people: with beasts and apes one ought to be an ape. O the misery of life!

WHEN NIGHT APPEARS TO BE LONG.

For to those overwhelmed in sorrow and grief every night is sure to appear long.

HOW DEATH APPEARS IN DIFFERENT STAGES OF
LIFE.

When I was a young man, I pitied those who were carried off prematurely; but now when I see the funeral of the old, I weep, for this is my concern, the other was not.

THE HABITS OF THE OLD.

Do not despise, Philinus, the habits of the old, to which, if thou reachest old age, thou wilt be subject. But we, fathers, are greatly inferior in this. If a father does not act kindly, you reproach him in some such language as this—"Hast thou never been young?" And it is not possible for the old to say to his son, if he acts imprudently, "Hast thou never been old?"

FELLOW-SUFFERERS.

This is according to nature; every one in misfortune grieves most pleasantly in company with those who are suffering in the same way.

NEVER DESPAIR.

Men, it is not right for him who is in misfortune to despair, but always to expect better fortune.

WHO IS HAPPY?

For it is not right to call the man who possesses much riches happy, but the man who is not in grief.

FORTUNE.

Fortune is a sore, sore thing; but we must bear it in a certain way, as a burden.

TIME.

For if thou takest time into thy affairs, it will allay and arrange all things.

ARATUS.

FLOURISHED B.C. 270.

ARATUS, a Greek poet, of Soli, in Cilicia, flourished B.C. 270, in the reign of Ptolemy Philadelphus, and was the contemporary of Theocritus, by whom he is spoken of in honorable terms (vi. 1-45). Aratus spent much of his time at the court of Antigonus Gonatas, B.C. 282-239. He was the author of a work entitled "*Phænomena*," which has been preserved, and which is a description of the heavens in hexameter verse. It is a poem of 732 lines, and contains rather a poetical than scientific account of the appearances in the heavens. It seems to have been a great favorite with the Romans, as it was frequently translated into Latin verse. Cicero, in his youth, employed himself in translating it, but it adds little to the reputation of the orator. Another work of Aratus which we possess is entitled "*Diosemeia*," prognostics of the weather, which was also translated by Cicero.

WE ARE THE OFFSPRING OF GOD.

Let us begin our song from Jupiter; let us never leave his name unuttered; all paths, all haunts of men are full of Jove, the sea and heavens; we all everywhere require the aid of Jove, for we are his offspring. Benevolent, he warns mankind to good; urges them to toil with hope of food.

GOD PLACED SIGNS IN THE HEAVENS.

For God himself placed these signs in the heaven, having set apart the stars.

So Genesis (i. 14)—"And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of heaven, to divide the day from the night, and let them be for signs."

THE GOLDEN AGE.

They were not then acquainted with miserable strife, nor dissensions, with complaints without end, nor tumults; thus they lived in simplicity. The boisterous sea lay aside, no ships brought food from afar, but oxen and ploughs supplied it; and Justice herself, the bountiful giver of good, furnished boundless gifts to nations; so it was so long as the earth fed a golden race.

ARCHILOCHUS.

ARCHILOCHUS of Paris, in Lydia, flourished about 714-676 B.C. and is regarded as the first of the lyric poets.

SPEAK NOT ILL OF THE DEAD.

For it is not good to jeer at the dead.

ARCHIPPUS.

FLOURISHED B.C. 415.

ARCHIPPUS, an Athenian comic poet of the old comedy, gained a single prize, B.C. 415.

THE SEA.

How sweet it is, mother, to see the sea from the land, when we are not sailing!

ARISTOPHANES.

BORN B.C. 444—DIED ABOUT B.C. 380.

ARISTOPHANES, the only writer of the old comedy of whom any entire works are left, was son of

Euphorion, an Athenian. Of his private history we know nothing, except that he was fond of pleasure, and spent much of his time in drinking and the society of the witty. There are eleven of his plays still remaining. The period during which he exhibited his plays was one of the most brilliant, and at the same time the most unfortunate, that Athens ever witnessed. It was in the fourth year of the Peloponnesian War, B.C. 427, that he brought on the stage his first play, and for the long period of thirty years he continued to produce a series of caricatures on the leading men of the day, which give us more insight into the private history of the times than we could have got from any other source. The evils of war, the folly of his countrymen in being led by loud-mouthed demagogues, the danger of an education in which scepticism took the place of religion, and the excessive love for litigation, to which the Athenians were addicted, are the subjects against which he inveighs, with a power and a boldness which show him to have been an honest, though not always a wise, patriot. Plato called the soul of Aristophanes a temple for the Graces, and has introduced him into his "Symposium." His lyrical powers were of a high order, as may be seen in many of his choruses, where his fancy takes the widest range: frogs chant choruses, and the grunt of a pig is formed into an iambic verse. The coarseness and indecency which are mixed up with some of his finest passages must be referred more to the age in which he lived than to his own mind.

A ROGUE.

If I get clear of my debts, I care not though men call me bold, glib of tongue, audacious, im-

puident, shameless, a fabricator of falsehoods, inventor of words, practised in lawsuits, a law tablet, a rattle, a fox, a sharper, a slippery knave, a dissembler, a slippery fellow, an impostor, a rogue that deserves the cat-o'-nine-tails, a black-guard, a twister, a troublesome fellow, a lick-up of hashes. If they call me all this, when they meet me, they may do so if they please.

So that I may but fob my creditors,
 Let the world talk; I care not though it call me
 A bold-faced, loud-tongued, overbearing bully;
 A shameless, vile, prevaricating cheat;
 A tricking, quibbling, double-dealing knave;
 A prating, pettifogging limb-o'-th'-law;
 A sly old fox, a perjurer, a hang-dog,
 A ragamuffin made of shreds and patches,
 The leavings of a dunghill. Let 'em rail,
 Yea, marry, let 'em turn my guts to fiddle-strings,
 May my bread be my poison, if I care!

MEMORY OF TWO SORTS.

Oh! as for that,
 My memory is of two sorts, long and short:
 With them who owe me aught it never fails;
 My creditors, indeed, complain of it
 As mainly apt to leak and lose its reckoning.

OLD AGE A SECOND CHILDHOOD.

But I would say, in reply, that old men are boys
 twice over.
 And grant they were, the proverb's in your teeth,
 Which says old age is but a second childhood.

WE ARE THE CAUSE OF MISFORTUNES TO OURSELVES.

Nay, rather, thou art thyself the cause of these things to thyself, having had recourse to wicked courses.

Evil events from evil causes spring,
And what you suffer flows from what you've done.

EVERYTHING SUBSERVIENT TO RICHES.

And by Jove, if there be anything grand, beautiful, or pleasing to men, it is through thee (riches); for all things are subservient to riches.

SELFISHNESS OF MANKIND.

But to me it is a prodigy, that a man, who hath any good luck, should send for his friends to share it. Surely he hath done a very unfashionable thing.

NO MAN RIGHTEOUS.

I know . . . that there is no man truly honest; we are none of us above the influence of gain.

ADVANTAGE OF POVERTY TO THE HUMAN RACE.

Should this which you long for be accomplished, I say it would not be conducive to your happiness; for should Plutus recover his sight, and distribute his favors equally, no man would trouble himself with the theory of any art, nor with the exercise of any craft; and if these two should once disappear, who afterwards will become a brasier, a shipwright, a tailor, a wheelwright, a shoemaker, a brickmaker, a dyer, or a skinner? Or who will plough up the bowels of the earth, in order to reap the fruits of Ceres, if it was once possible for you to live with the neglect of all these things?

POVERTY IS SISTER OF BEGGARY.

Therefore we say, certainly, that poverty is sister of beggary.

THE EFFECT OF POVERTY AND RICHES ON MAN.

And knowing that I (Poverty) furnish men better than Plutus (Riches) both in mind and body; for with him they are gouty in feet, pot-bellied, thick-legged, and extravagantly fat; but with me they are thin and wasp-like, and annoying to their enemies.

TO CONVINCE AGAINST OUR WILL.

For thou shalt not convince me, even if thou shouldst convince me.

Gay says—

“Convince a man against his will,
He’s of the same opinion still.”

A MAN’S COUNTRY WHERE HE LIVES BEST.

That is every man’s country, where he lives best.

ELYSIUM.

After that the breath of flutes shall encompass thee, and thou shalt see a most beautiful light, as here, and myrtle groves, and happy bands of men and women, and much clapping of hands.

Onward the dulcet harmony of flutes
Shall breathe around thee, while thou shalt behold
Light’s gayest beams, such as we here enjoy,
And myrtle groves, and troops of either sex
Moving in mystic choruses, and marking
With plausive hands their holy ecstasy.

DEBARRING THE PROFANE FROM THE SACRED MYSTERIES.

It is right that he should abstain from ill-omened words, and retire from our choirs, whoever is unskilled in such words, or is not pure in mind, and has neither seen nor cultivated with dances the

orgies of the noble Muses, and has not been initiated in the Bacchanalian orgies of the tongue of Cratinus, the bull-eater, or takes pleasure in buffoonish verses, exciting buffoonery at an improper time, or does not repress hateful sedition, and is not kind to the citizens, but, desirous of his private advantage, excites and blows it up; or, when the commonwealth is tempest-tossed, being a magistrate, yields to bribes, or betrays a garrison, or ships or imports from Ægina forbidden goods, being another Thorycion, a vile collector of tolls, sending across to Epidaurus oar-paddings, sail-cloth and pitch, or who persuades any one to supply money for the ships of the enemy.

Hushed be each lawless tongue, and, ye profane,
 Ye uninitiated, from our mysteries
 Far off retire! Whoe'er a bosom boasts not
 Pure and unsullied, nor has ever learned
 To worship at the Muses' hallowed shrine,
 Or lead in sportive dance their votaries,
 Nor in Cratinus' lofty sounding style
 Has formed his tongue to Bacchus' praise;—who-
 e'er

Delights in flattery's unseemly language;—
 Who strives not to allay the rising storm
 That threatens the public weal, nor cultivates
 The sweets of private friendship, but foment
 Intestine discord, blows the rancorous flame
 Of enmity 'twixt man and man, to serve
 Some sordid purpose of his narrow soul;—
 Whoe'er intrusted with the government
 Of a divided city, by corruption
 Is led away from th' even path of justice;—
 Whoe'er betrays the fortress he commands,
 Gives up his ship, or from Ægina sends
 Forbidden stores, as late that vile collector,

Shameless Thorycio, did to Epidaurus;
 Whoe'er persuades another to supply
 The enemy with money for their fleet.

TORTURE.

In every way, by tying him to a ladder, by hanging, by scourging with a whip, by flaying, by racking, and besides by pouring vinegar into his nostrils, by heaping bricks upon him, and in every other way; only don't beat him with leek or young onion.

By every method—

Tie him upon the ladder,—hang him up,—
 Give him the bristly strap,—flog, torture him,—
 Pour vinegar up his nostrils,—t' his feet
 Apply the tiles; question him as thou wilt,
 So 'tis not with a rod of leeks and onions.

GOOD FOLKS ARE SCARCE.

Good folks are scarce; and so it is with us.

THE AIM OF POETS.

For it becomes poets to practise this. For see how useful noble poets have been from of old. For Orpheus made known to us noble mysteries and to abstain from bloodshed; Musæus, complete cures of diseases and oracular responses; Hesiod, agriculture, seed-time, and harvest; and by what did the divine Homer gain honor and glory except in this way, that he taught what was useful, military skill, and all the various use of arms?

POETS AND SCHOOLMASTERS.

Yet it is right for a poet to throw a veil over evil deeds, not to bring them unto the light of day, or produce them on the stage; for he who directs little children is their teacher, while poets are to

those who are grown up. In truth it is our province, above everything, to instruct men in virtue and truth.

But horrible facts
Should be buried in silence, not bruited abroad,
Nor brought forth on the stage, nor emblazoned
in poetry.

Children and boys have a teacher assigned them—
The bard is a master for manhood and youth,
Bound to instruct them in virtue and truth.

FRERE.

NOBLE THOUGHTS PRODUCE NOBLE DICTION.

But you, wretch, it is necessary also to produce words that may correspond with great thoughts and noble sentiments; and besides, it is natural that demigods should employ language grander than ours, for they use a more magnificent attire.

Elevated thoughts and noble sentiments,
Of course, produce a corresponding diction;
Heroes, besides, with much propriety,
May use a language raised above the vulgar,
Just as they wear a more superb attire;—
Which, when I showed thee, thou hast done most
fouly.

DEATH SCORNS GIFTS.

The only power that scorns our gifts is death.

LIFE IS DEATH.

Who knows but life is death, to breathe a feast,
To sleep naught else but a warm coverlet?

THE NIGHTINGALE.

O King Jove! the voice of the bird! how has it
filled with melody the whole grove!

O Jupiter! the dear, delicious bird!
 With what a lovely tone she swells and falls,
 Sweetening the wilderness with delicate air.

FRERE.

WE LEARN FROM OUR ENEMIES.

You're mistaken; men of sense often learn from their enemies. Prudence is the best safeguard. This principle cannot be learned from a friend, but an enemy extorts it immediately. It is from their foes, not their friends, that cities learn the lesson of building high walls and ships of war. And this lesson saves their children, their homes, and their properties.

"WHAT EYE HATH NOT SEEN NOR EAR HEARD."

He speaks of a mighty bliss, which cannot be expressed in words nor believed to be possible; for he will convince you by arguments that all these things are yours, both what is here and there and everywhere.

So St. Paul (1 Cor. ii. 9)—

"But as it is written, Eye hath not seen nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him."

SLY AS A FOX.

He's as sly as a fox; he's contrivance, adroitness, subtility itself; he's so cunning that he'd slip through your fingers like wild-fire.

MORTALS AND IMMORTALS CONTRASTED.

Mortals, that are condemned to live in darkness—mortals, that fade like the leaves, emblems of imbecility, images of clay, a race lightsome and without substance, creatures of a day without wings—miserable mortals, men that flit away as dreams! give ear to us who know no decay, to us

who live forever, to us who dwell on high, who flourish in immortal youth, who harbor thoughts which perish not; that having received all accurate information from us on the subject of sublimity, having learnt correctly the nature of birds, the birth of the gods, of rivers, of Erebus, and of Chaos, ye may tell Prodicus, with his philosophy, to go hang.

PEACE BE UPON THIS PLACE.

Peace be upon this place.

So Luke (x. 5)—“Peace be to this house.”

THE ADVANTAGES OF WINE.

Dost thou dare to find fault with wine as merely giving birth to ideas? Why, canst thou point out anything more fully engaged in the practical affairs of life? Consider for a moment: when men drink, then they are rich, they traffic, are successful in lawsuits, are happy, give aid to their friends. Come, bring out quickly a stoup of wine, that I may moisten my brain, and say something clever.

REQUISITE QUALITIES FOR A DEMAGOGUE.

The other qualities requisite for a demagogue are thine—foul-mouthed, base-born, a low mean fellow. Thou possessest every quality necessary to make thy way with the mob.

A PALTRY ORATOR.

“To speak,” indeed! No doubt thou wouldst cleverly take up some case that had fallen to thee, and handle it properly, tearing it in pieces like a piece of raw flesh. But knowest thou in what way thou seemest to me to be placed? Thou art like the rest of them. If thou hast anywhere

pleaded some paltry suit well against a resident-alien, babbling the livelong night, and talking to thyself in the streets, and drinking water, and showing thyself off, and boring thy friends, thou thoughtst thyself a dab at oratory—thou silly coxcomb!

You're like the rest of 'em—the swarm of paltry, weak pretenders.

You've made your pretty speech, perhaps, and gained a little lawsuit

Against a merchant-foreigner, by dint of water-drinking,

And lying long awake o' nights, composing and repeating,

And studying as you walked the streets, and wearing out the patience

Of all your friends and intimates with practising beforehand:

And now you wonder at yourself, elated and delighted

At your own talent for debate—you silly, saucy coxcomb.—FRERE.

“TO BUILD THE LOFTY RHYME.”

Builders of ingenious songs.

Milton, in “Lycidas” (v. 10), says—

“Who would not sing for Lycidas? he knew
Himself to sing, and build the lofty rhyme.”

AN AGED BARD.

But now, when you see him in his dotage, you do not pity him, since the pegs fall out and the tone is no longer there, and the harmony is dissonant.

Scott in his “Minstrel,” says—

“His withered cheek and tresses gray
Seemed to have known a better day.”

A DEMAGOGUE FISHING IN TROUBLED WATERS.

For thou art like those who fish for eels. When the loch is tranquil, they catch nothing; but if they stir the mud up and down, they take. Thou, too, catchest, if thou disturb the city.

HEAR BOTH SIDES OF A QUESTION.

Of a truth he was a wise man who said, "Thou shouldst not decide till thou hast heard what both have to say."

THE DAYS THAT ARE GONE BY.

O we! who once in days of old were active in dances, brave in-battle, and, on this very account alone, most warlike men. This was of old; but now all that is gone, and these hairs now blossom whiter than the swan.

O we! who once were ardent in the dance,
And brave in fight, of all men most courageous;
But this is of old date—'tis past—and now
These hairs of ours are whiter than the swan.

WHEELWRIGHT.

See Percy's "Reliques," vol. ii. p. 162—

" His reverend locks
In comely curls did wave;
And on his aged temples grewe
The blossomes of the grave."

THE DAYS THAT ARE GONE BY.

Truly then I was terrible so as to fear nothing; and I subdued my foes, sailing thither with the triremes; for we thought not how we should speak rightly nor how we should slander any one, but how we should be the best steersman.

Oh the days that are gone by, oh the days that are
no more,
When my eye was bold and fearless, and my
hand was on the oar!
Merrily then, oh merrily, I beat the brine to lath,
And the sea once crossed, sacked cities were the
foot-tracks of my path.

Oh the days that are gone by!
Then with none was care to find
Dainty words and speech refined;
Reasoning much on taste and tact,—
Quick of tongue, but slow to act.—MITCHELL.

THE RESULTS OF DRINKING.

Drinking is bad; for it is from wine that spring
the breaking of doors, and the dealing of blows,
and the throwing of stones; and then the paying
of money after your drunken bout.

So Shakespeare ("Othello," act ii. sc. 3)—

"Every inordinate cup is unblessed, and the ingredient is a
devil."

WOMAN'S TIME FOR MARRIAGE IS SHORT.

For man, though he be gray-headed when he
comes back, soon gets a young wife. But a
woman's time is short within which she can ex-
pect to obtain a husband. If she allows it to slip
away, no one cares to marry her. She sits at
home speculating on the probabilities of her mar-
riage.

THE DECEIT OF WOMEN.

A woman is most ingenious in providing money;
and when she is at the head of a house, can never
be deceived, for they themselves are accustomed
to deceive.

Then, for the ways and means, say who're more skilled

Than women? They, too, are such arch-deceivers,
That, when in power, they ne'er will be deceived.—SMITH.

AGRICULTURE.

A. The faithful nurse, housewife, helper, guardian, daughter, sister of beloved, peace to all men, all these epithets are applicable to me.—B. But what is your name, pray?—A. What, Agriculture.—B. O day desired by the just and husbandmen! having seen thee with pleasure, I wish to address the vines.

DEATH.

To fear death is very great folly, for it is fated to all men to die.

ARISTOPHON.

ARISTOPHON, a comic poet, who is supposed to have belonged to the middle comedy, but nothing is known of his life or age. We know the titles of nine of his plays.

POVERTY.

The storm is evident; poverty, like a lamp, shows everything bad and annoying.

ARISTOTLE.

BORN B.C. 384—DIED B.C. 322.

ARISTOTLE, the celebrated philosopher, was a native of Stageira, a seaport town of the district

of Chalcidice, which became subject to Philip of Macedon. He was son of Nicomachus, physician to Amyntas II., King of Macedon. He lost his father at an early age, and was intrusted to the guardianship of Proxenus of Atarneus in Mysia, who seems to have performed his duties in a way to entitle him to the grateful acknowledgments of his pupil. Aristotle was attracted by his love of learning to Athens, where Plato was in the zenith of his fame, and that master soon discovered the abilities of his ardent disciple. On account of his industry and unwearied efforts in search of the truth, Plato used to call him the "intellect of his school," and say "that he needed a curb, while Xenocrates needed the spur." For twenty years he continued to be on intimate terms with Plato, though he had himself assembled around him a circle of admiring followers; but at the death of Plato, B.C. 347, he left Athens, and joined his former pupil, Hermias, who had become ruler of Atarneus and Assos. When Hermias was destroyed by the Persians, Aristotle fled to Mitylene, and two years after, B.C. 342, we find him invited by Philip, King of Macedon, to undertake the instruction and education of his son, Alexander, then thirteen years of age. The young prince became so strongly attached to him that he valued his instructor above his own father. Aristotle spent seven years in Macedon. In the year B.C. 355, soon after Alexander succeeded to the throne, Aristotle returned to Athens, where he collected a large number of pupils from the cities of Europe and Asia. There he continued for thirteen years to teach his doctrines to those who afterwards became distinguished as philosophers, historians, statesmen, and orators. On the death of Alexander, he was accused of impiety, which was

the usual prelude to an unjust condemnation. To deprive the Athenians, as he said, of sinning a second time against philosophy, he left Athens, and spent the remainder of his life at Chalcis, in Eubœa, where the Macedonian influence afforded him protection and security. Out of four hundred treatises which he is said to have composed, only forty-eight have been transmitted to the present age.

HAPPINESS.

But concerning happiness, men cannot agree as to its true nature, and the vulgar by no means hold the same opinion respecting it with the educated; for some are inclined to apply it only to what is distinct and marked in its essence, such as pleasure, wealth, or honor; each man thinking differently of it from his neighbors, and often the same person entertains different opinions respecting it at different times. For, when he is ill, he thinks it to be health; when poor to be riches; but, being conscious of their own ignorance, men are apt to be struck with admiration at those who say that it is something great and above them.

ONE SWALLOW DOES NOT MAKE SPRING.

For one swallow does not make spring, nor yet one fine day; so, also, neither does one day, nor a short time, make a man blessed and happy.

THE PRINCIPLE HALF OF THE WHOLE QUESTION.

For the principle seems to be more than the half of the whole question.

THE THREE QUALITIES INCLUDED IN HAPPINESS.

Happiness is the best, most honorable, and most pleasant of all things; nor are these qualities to be disjoined, as in the inscription at Delos, where

it maintains "that the most just is the most honorable, that health is what is most to be desired, and the most pleasant thing is to obtain what we love;" for all these qualities exist in the best energies, and we say that these, or the best one if them, is happiness.

HAPPINESS A DIVINE GIFT.

If, then, there is anything that is a gift of the gods to men, it is surely reasonable to suppose that happiness is a divine gift, and more than anything else of human things, as it is the best.

IMPORTANCE OF EARLY EDUCATION.

Therefore it is necessary to be in a certain degree trained from our very childhood, as Plato says, to feel pleasure and pain at what we ought; for this is education in its true sense.

WHAT CONSTITUTES AN ACTION VIRTUOUS.

Then, again, it is not the same in regard to the arts and the virtues, for works of art have their excellence in themselves; it is sufficient, therefore, that they should themselves possess such a character. Whereas virtuous deeds are just and temperate, not if the deeds themselves have this character, but if the agent, who does them, has in himself this character; first, if he does them knowingly; then, if with deliberate choice, and deliberate choice on their own account; thirdly, if he does them on a fixed and unchangeable principle. Now, with regard to all other arts these ideas are not taken into account, with the exception of knowledge; whereas, with regard to virtues, mere knowledge has little or no weight, while the other qualifications are not of small but of infinite

importance, since they spring from the habit of just and temperate actions.

TO HIT THE MEAN IS DIFFICULT.

Virtue, then, is a kind of mean state, being at least apt to strike the mean. Again, it is possible to go wrong in many ways (for evil, as the Pythagoreans imagined, is of the nature of the infinite, but good of the finite), whereas we can go right only in one way; therefore the former is easy, the latter is difficult; it is easy to miss a mark, difficult to hit it; and for these reasons the excess and defect belong to vice, but the mean to virtue; "for we are good in one way only, but bad in all kinds of ways."

DEATH IS A LIMIT.

Death is the most terrible of all things; for it is a limit, and it is thought that there is nothing good or bad beyond to the dead.

THE CHARACTER OF THE CELTIC RACE.

If he fear nothing, neither earthquake nor the waves, as they say of the Celts.

SUICIDE AN ACT OF COWARDICE.

To die in order to avoid the pains of poverty, love, or anything that is disagreeable, is not the part of a brave man, but of a coward; for it is cowardice to shun the trials and crosses of life, not undergoing death because it is honorable, but to avoid evil.

THE CONDUCT OF REGULAR TROOPS AND MILITIA CONTRASTED.

Regular troops lose their courage when they see the danger greater than they expected, and when

they find themselves surpassed in numbers and equipments. For they are the first to turn their backs. But the militia of a country die at their posts, as happened at Hermæum. For in their eyes it is disgraceful to fly, and death is regarded as preferable to safety procured at such a cost. The others only expose themselves to danger while they think themselves superior, but when they find that they are mistaken, they at once run away, fearing death more than dishonor. This certainly is not the character of the brave man.

BELLY-GODS.

For to eat or drink till a man is surfeited is going beyond the natural desire in quantity; for the object of natural desire is the satisfying our wants. Therefore these are called belly-gods, as they satisfy their wants more than they ought; people of excessively slavish dispositions are apt to do this.

So Philippians (iii. 19)—“Whose god is their belly, and glory in shame.”

THE CHARACTERISTIC OF THE MAGNANIMOUS MAN.

It is the characteristic of a magnanimous man to ask no favor, or scarcely any, but to be ready to do kindness to others, to be haughty in demeanor towards men of rank and fortune, kindly towards those of the middle classes, for to rise superior to the former is difficult and honorable, over the latter it is easy; among the former there is nothing ungenerous in showing pride, among those of humble rank it is bad taste, just like making a show of strength to the weak.

FLATTERERS.

All flatterers are mercenary; and low-minded men are flatterers.

MEN-PLEASERS AND THE CROSS-GRAINED CONTRASTED.

In the intercourse of society and life, in conversation and the affairs of the world, some men appear to be parasites, who praise everything, for the sake of giving pleasure, and never contradict an opinion, but think that they ought to give no opinion to those with whom they happen to be; others, the very opposite characters to these, who oppose everything, and are altogether regardless of the feelings of their neighbor, are called cross-grained and quarrelsome.

TRUTH AND FALSEHOOD.

Falsehood is bad and blamable; truth honorable and praiseworthy.

THE REFINED AND GENTLEMANLY MAN.

Now the refined and gentlemanly man will so act, being as it were a law unto himself; and such is he who is in the mean, whether he be called a man of tact or of graceful wit.

A RULER IS NOT A TERROR TO GOOD WORKS.

Wherefore we do not allow man to rule but reason, because man rules for himself, and becomes a tyrant. A ruler is the protector of the just, and, if of the just, then, also, of what is equitable to all.

RIGOR OF LAW.

From this it is evident what is the character of the equitable man; for he who is disposed to do such things, and is active in their performance, who does not assert his rights to the uttermost, but is willing to take something less, even though

he may have law on his side, is a man of equity: this habit is equity, being a kind of justice, and not a different habit from justice.

THE PAST.

Therefore well does Agathon say, "Of this alone is even God deprived, the power of making that which is past never to have been."

FRIENDSHIP.

In poverty and the other misfortunes of life, men think friends to be their only refuge. The young they keep out of mischief, to the old they are a comfort and aid in their weakness, and those in the prime of life they incite to noble deeds.

FRIENDS.

When men are friends, there is no need of justice; but when they are just, they still need friendship.

FRIENDSHIP REQUIRES TIME.

According to the proverb, it is impossible for friends to know each other till they have eaten a certain quantity of salt with each other. Nor can they be on friendly and familiar terms till they appear worthy of each other's friendship and confidence.

THE WICKED.

The wicked have no stability, for they do not remain in consistency with themselves; they continue friends only for a short time, rejoicing in each other's wickedness.

TYRANNY.

The defection of monarchy is tyranny; for both are monarchies, but the difference between them

is very marked: for a tyrant thinks only of his own interests, while a king attends to those of his subjects. For he is not a king who is not uncontrolled, and who is not possessed of all kinds of goods, for such a one stands in need of nothing more; therefore he does not require to be looking after his own interests, but devotes himself to his subjects.

A TYRANT.

For a tyrant pursues his own peculiar good, and it is more manifest for this very reason, that it is the worst form of government, for that is worst which is opposite to the best.

BE JUST BEFORE YOU ARE GENEROUS.

We ought rather to pay a debt to a creditor than give to a companion.

GIVE EVERY ONE HIS DUE.

But, since we owe different services to parents, brothers, companions, and benefactors, we ought to take care to pay every one his due, and that which is suitable to his character.

THE INTELLECTUAL PART CONSTITUTES EACH MAN'S
SELF.

For the good man agrees in opinion with himself, and desires the same things with all his soul; therefore he wishes what is good for himself, and what appears so, practising it: for it is the part of a good man to labor for what is good, and for his own sake; for it is for the sake of his intellectual part, which is considered to be a man's own self.

MIND IS THE MAN.

And the thinking principle—or, at least, that rather than any other—must be considered to be each man's self.

A GOOD MAN IS WITHOUT REPENTANCE.

Besides, the good man has abundant subjects for reflection; he sympathizes most with himself in joys and sorrows; for the same always gives to him the same pain or sorrow, and not sometimes one thing and sometimes another. For he is, if we may be allowed to say so, without repentance.

THE COUNSELS OF GOOD MEN.

For the counsels of good men remain fixed, and do not ebb and flow like the Euripus; they desire what is just and proper.

WHY MOTHERS ARE FOND OF THEIR CHILDREN.

For this reason, also, mothers are more fond of their children than fathers are; for the bringing them forth is more painful, and they have a more certain knowledge that they are their own.

THE MASSES LED BY FEAR.

(Treatises) have no power to persuade the multitude to do what is virtuous and honorable. For the masses are formed by nature to obey, not a sense of shame, but fear; nor do they refrain from vicious things on account of disgrace, but of punishment; for they live in obedience to passion, pursuing their own pleasures and the means of gratifying them; they fly also from the contrary pains; but of what is honorable and really delightful, they have not the slightest idea, inasmuch as they never had a taste for them. What power of reasoning, then, could bring about a change on such men as these? For it is not possible, or at least not easy to change what has been impressed for a long time upon the moral character.

EDUCATION THE DUTY OF THE STATE.

It would therefore be best that the state should pay attention to education, and on right principles, and that it should have the power to enforce it; but if it be neglected as a public measure, then it would seem to be the duty of every individual to contribute to the virtue of his children and friends, or at least to make this his deliberate purpose.

Sir Thomas More ("Utopia," page 21) says—"If you suffer your people to be ill educated, and their manners to be corrupted from their infancy, and then punish them for those crimes to which their first education disposed them,—you first make thieves, and then punish them."

SOME COMMAND AND SOME OBEY.

By nature some command and some obey, that all may enjoy safety; for the being that is able to foresee coming events is a ruler of nature's own appointment; whereas he who is only able to assist by bodily service, is a subordinate and natural slave. Hence the interest of master and slave is identical.

THE DOMESTIC TIE IS THE FIRST.

Hesiod is right when he says, "First house, then wife, then oxen for the plough;" for the ox stands in place of slave to the poor.

MAN ALONE HAS PERCEPTION OF GOOD AND
EVIL.

For this is the distinguishing mark between man and the lower animals, that he alone is endowed with the power of knowing good and evil, justice and injustice. It is a participation in these that constitutes a family and a city.

THE FREEMAN AND THE SLAVE.

Some think that the power of one man over another is contrary to nature; for they maintain that it is only human law that makes one man a slave and another a free man. But in nature there is no such distinction; wherefore it is an unjust arrangement, for it is the result of force and compulsion.

See Milton, "Paradise Lost," xii,—

"But man over men
He made not lord: such title to Himself
Reserving—human left from human free."

WORSE SERVED BY MANY SERVANTS THAN BY FEW.

As in a family we are often served worse when we have many servants than a few.

AFFECTION FOR ONE'S SELF IS NATURAL.

And also in regard to pleasure it is not to be expressed what a difference it makes for a man to think that he has something his own. For possibly it may not be in vain that each person has an affection for himself, for this is natural, but selfishness is justly blamed. This is not merely to love one's self, but to love one's self more than we ought.

MORAL UNITY OF A STATE TO BE PRODUCED BY MORAL MEANS.

But a state consisting of a multitude of beings, as we have before said, ought to be brought to unity and community by education; and he who is about to introduce education, and expects thereby to make the state excellent, will act absurdly if he thinks to fashion it by any other means than by manners, philosophy, and laws.

DIFFERENT SPECIES OF MEN.

For that golden particle, which God has mixed up in the soul of man, flies not from one to the other, but always continues with the same; for he says that some of our species have gold, and others silver, blended in their composition from the moment of their birth.

WHAT IS THE DEFINITION OF A CITIZEN?

The truest definition of a complete citizen that can be given is probably this, that he shares in the judicial and executive part of the government.

TO COMMAND AND OBEY.

But it is a matter of high commendation to know how to command as well as to obey; to do both these things well is the peculiar quality of a distinguished citizen.

HUSBAND AND WIFE.

The domestic employment of husband and wife differs in this, that the former tries to acquire subsistence, and the latter to keep it.

WHEN A STATE IS WELL GOVERNED.

The supreme power must necessarily be in the hands of one person, or of a few, or of the many. When the one, the few, or the many direct their whole efforts for the common good, such states must be well governed; but when the advantage of the one, the few, or the many is alone regarded, a change for the worse must be expected.

WHAT LAW IS A PLEDGE OF.

For the law is an agreement, and, as Lycophron says, a pledge given that citizens will do justice

to each other; but yet the law is not able to make all the citizens good and just.

WHAT IS A STATE?

Then it is evident that a state is not a mere community of place; nor is it established that men may be safe from injury, and maintain an interchange of good offices. All these things, indeed, must take place where there is a state, and yet they may all exist and there be no state. A state, then, may be defined to be a society of people joining together by their families and children to live happily, enjoying a life of thorough independence.

AN UNION OF THE MANY WITH THE FEW DESIRABLE.

For the multitude, when they are collected together, have sufficient understanding for this purpose (of electing magistrates), and mingling with those of higher rank, are serviceable to the state; as some kinds of food, which would be poisonous by itself, by being mixed with the wholesome, makes the whole good; in the same way, separately, each individual is unfit to form a judgment by himself.

THE RIGHT MAN IN THE RIGHT PLACE.

A pretension to offices of state ought to be founded on those qualifications, which are part of itself. And for this reason, men of birth, independence, and fortune are right in contending with each other for office; for those who hold offices of state ought to be persons of independence and property. A state should no more consist entirely of poor men than it ought entirely of slaves. But though such persons are requisite, it is evi-

dent that there must also be justice and military valor; for without justice and valor no state can be maintained; just as without the former class a state cannot exist, and without the latter it cannot be well governed.

HONORABLE DESCENT OF GREAT ESTEEM.

The free-born and men of high birth will dispute the point with each other as being nearly on an equality; for citizens that are well born have a right to more respect than the ignoble. Honorable descent is in all nations greatly esteemed; besides, it is to be expected that the children of men of worth will be like their fathers, for nobility is the virtue of a family.

LAW OUGHT TO BE SUPREME.

He, then, who orders the reasoning principle of man to be supreme, seems to make God and the laws to be supreme, but he who gives the power to man gives it to a wild beast. For passion may be so called, and it is passion that brings ruin on rulers, even though they be the very best of men: wherefore the law is reason free from passion.

THE MORAL LAW IS SUPERIOR TO WRITTEN LAW.

The moral law is much superior to the written law, and treats of matters of greater weight; for the supreme ruler is more to be trusted than the written law, though he be inferior to the moral.

WHAT FORMS A GOOD MAN.

So that education and morals will be found to be almost the whole that goes to make a good man; and the same things will make a good statesman and good king.

THE CORRUPTION OF THE BEST IS THE WORST.

The corruption of the best and most divine form of government must be the worst.

A DEMOCRACY.

For when a democracy is controlled by fixed laws, a demagogue has no power, but the best citizens fill the offices of state: when the laws are not supreme, there demagogues are found. For the people act like a king, being one body; for the many are supreme, not as individuals, but as a whole.

THERE IS NO FREE STATE WHERE THE LAWS ARE
NOT SUPREME.

For there is no free state where the laws do not rule supreme; for the law ought to be above all.

PEOPLE LOVE THEIR ANCIENT CUSTOMS.

For people do not change at once, but love their ancient customs, making gradual changes; so that ancient laws remain in force, while the power continues with those who bring about a revolution in the state.

THE MIDDLE STATE TO BE PREFERRED.

In every state the people are divided into three kinds: the very rich, the very poor, and, thirdly, those who are between them. Since, then, it is universally acknowledged that the mean is best, it is evident that even in respect to fortune, a middle state is to be preferred; for that state is most likely to submit to reason. For those who are very handsome, or very strong, or very noble, or, on the hand, those who are very poor, or very weak, or very mean, are with difficulty induced to

obey reason. And this because the one class is supercilious, and "sin as it were with a cart-rope," the other rascally and mean; and the crimes of each arise respectively from insolence and villany.

THE BEST STATE WHERE THE MEAN OUTNUMBERS
THE EXTREMES.

It is evident, then, that the most perfect political community is that which is administered by the middle classes, and that those states are best carried on in which these are the majority and outweigh both the other classes; and if that cannot be, at least when they overbalance each separate. For, being thrown into the balance, it will prevent either excess from predominating. Wherefore it is the greatest happiness to possess a moderate and competent fortune; since, where some possess too much, and others nothing at all, the government must be either an extreme democracy or else a pure oligarchy, or, from the excesses of both, a tyranny; for this springs from a headstrong democracy or oligarchy, but far more seldom when the members of the community are nearly on an equality with each other.

WHERE THE MIDDLE CLASS IS LARGE LESS SEDI-
TION.

But it is clear that the state where the middle ranks predominate is the best, for it alone is free from seditious movements. Where such a state is large, there are fewer seditions and insurrections to disturb the peace; and for this reason extensive states are more peaceful internally, as the middle ranks are numerous. In small states it is easy to pass to the two extremes, so as to have scarcely any

middle ranks remaining; but all are either very poor or very rich.

THE RULE OF HUSBANDMEN AND MECHANICS CONTRASTED.

Should the number of husbandmen be excessive, it will be of the best kind; if of mechanics and those who work for pay, of the worst.

NOBILITY AND MERIT ARE ONLY AMONGST A FEW.

For nobility and worth are to be found only amongst a few, but their opposite amongst the many; for there is not one man of merit and high spirit in a hundred, while there are many destitute of both to be found everywhere.

THE BEGINNING IS THE HALF OF THE BUSINESS.

For the mischief lies in the beginning; for the beginning is said to be "half of the whole."

WHENCE SEDITIONS ARISE IN A DEMOCRACY.

Democracies are chiefly subject to revolutions from the dishonest conduct of demagogues. For partly by lodging informations against men of property, and partly by rousing the common people against them, they induce them to unite; for a common fear will make the greatest enemies to join together.

A HOUSE DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF.

For a government in a constant state of turmoil is weak.

A FIRM STATE.

The only stable state is that where every one possesses an equality in the eye of the law, according to his merit, and enjoys his own unmolested.

TAKE CARE THAT NOTHING BE DONE CONTRARY
TO LAW.

For in states that are well blended particular care ought, above all things, to be taken that nothing be done contrary to law; and this should be chiefly looked to in matters of small moment: for small violations of law advance by stealthy steps, in the same way as, in a domestic establishment, trifling expenses, if often repeated, consume a man's whole estate.

QUALIFICATIONS OF A STATESMAN.

There are three qualifications which ought to be possessed by a man who aspires to fill the high offices of state; first, he must be well disposed, and prepared to support the established constitution of his country; next, he ought to have a special aptitude for the office which he fills; and, thirdly, he should have the kind of virtue and love of justice which suits the particular state in which he lives.

THE GOOD NEVER FLATTER. .

On this account tyrants are fond of bad men; for they like to be flattered. No man of high and generous spirit is ever willing to indulge in this habit; the good may feel affection for others, but will not flatter them. Besides, bad men assist them in their evil deeds: "Like to like," as the proverb says.

TYRANTS ARE AT ENMITY WITH MEN OF MERIT.

For which reason they are always at variance with men of merit as disaffected to their government, not only because they are unwilling to be governed despotically, but because they are faith-

ful to their own principles and to their friends, refusing to inform against themselves or others.

DEFINITION OF DEMOCRACY.

On the contrary, a democracy is a government in the hands of men of low birth, poverty, and vulgar employments.

ORIGINAL SIN.

For the power of doing whatever a man pleases is not able to check that evil particle which is in every man.

UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE.

The last and worst form of democracy is where every citizen has a share in the administration: few states can endure such a form, nor can it exist for any length of time unless it is well supported by laws and purity of manners.

PENALTIES NECESSARY TO KEEP TOGETHER HUMAN SOCIETY.

For if human society cannot be carried on without actions at law, it is impossible that it should exist without the infliction of penalties.

HAPPINESS DEPENDS ON VIRTUE AND WISDOM.

Let us be well persuaded that every one of us possesses happiness in proportion to his virtue and wisdom, and according as he acts in obedience to their suggestion, taking God himself as our example, who is completely happy and blessed, not from any external good, but in Himself, and because He is such by nature.

IMPORTANCE OF GOOD WATER.

Since every attention should be given to the health of the inhabitants, it is of great importance

that the city should have a good situation, and, next, that the inhabitants should have good water to drink; and this must not be regarded as a matter of secondary moment. For what is used chiefly and in great quantities for the support of the body must, above all, contribute to its health. And this is the influence which the air and the water exercise over the body. Wherefore, in all wise governments the water ought to be apportioned to different purposes, if all is not equally good, and if there is not abundance of both kinds, that for drinking should be separated from that which is used for other purposes.

INFLUENCE OF NATURE, HABIT, AND REASON
ON MANKIND.

Men are made good and honorable in three ways,—by nature, by custom, and by reason. For, in the first place, each individual ought to be a man, and not any other animal; that is, that he should possess a particular character both of body and soul. In some things, however, it is of no consequence to be born with them, for custom makes great changes, there being some things in nature capable of change either for the better or the worse. Now, other animals live chiefly a life of mere nature, and in very few things according to custom, but man lives also according to reason, with which he alone is endowed, wherefore he ought to make all these accord with each other; for, if they are persuaded that it is best to follow some other way, men often act contrary to nature and custom.

A MASTER SHOULD SUPERINTEND ALL THINGS.

The saying of the Persian and of the African are both to be highly commended; for the former

being asked what was best for fattening a horse, said, "The eye of the master;" and the African being asked what was the best manure, answered, "The footsteps of the master."

EARLY TO RISE.

It is also well to be up before daybreak, for such habits contribute to health, wealth, and wisdom.

A DISCREET WIFE.

But the prudent and discreet wife will very properly regard the behavior of her husband as the pattern which she ought to follow and the law of her life, invested with a divine sanction from the marriage tie; for if she can induce herself to submit patiently to her husband's mode of life, she will have no difficulty to manage her household affairs; but if not, she will not find it so easy.

PARENTS SHOULD SET A GOOD EXAMPLE TO THEIR CHILDREN.

For unless parents set a good example to their children, they will furnish a plain reason to be used by them against themselves. And this is to be feared, that, if they have not lived an honorable life, their sons will despise them and abandon them in their old age.

MAN AN IMITATIVE ANIMAL.

For imitation is natural to man from his infancy. Man differs from other animals particularly in this, that he is imitative, and acquires his rudiments of knowledge in this way; besides, the delight in it is universal.

THE RIDICULOUS.

For the ridiculous is produced by any defect that is unattended by pain or by fatal consequences; thus an ugly and deformed countenance does not fail to cause laughter, if it is not occasioned by pain.

HAPPINESS SPRINGS FROM ACTION.

But the principal of these parts is the combination of the incidents; for tragedy is imitation not of individuals but of actions in general, of human life, of good and bad fortune, for happiness springs from action; the main purpose of life is action and not quality, and though the manners of men spring from their qualities, their happiness or misery depends on their actions.

NO VERY SMALL OR VERY LARGE ANIMALS CAN
BE VERY BEAUTIFUL.

Then as to size, an animal, or any other thing that has constituent parts, in order that it may be beautiful, must not only have those justly connected, but should also have a certain proper size; for beauty depends on size as well as symmetry; for which reason no very small animal can be beautiful, for the view being made in almost an imperceptible space of time, will be confused; nor could a very large one, for, as the whole view cannot be taken in at once, the unity and completeness that should result from it will escape the spectator.

MAN EASILY AFFECTED TO GRIEF OR JOY.

As far as it is possible, the poet should enter into the spirit of the subject while he is composing; for those who are roused by passions are most likely to express those passions with force;

he who is really agitated storms, and he who is really angry upbraids most naturally.

MORAL CHARACTER.

Moral character nearly, so to say, carries with it the highest power of causing a thing to be believed.

A DEMOCRACY.

Thus a democracy, not only when relaxed, but if overstrained, becomes weaker, till at last it will pass into an oligarchy in the same way as hookedness or flatness of the nose not only when they relax approach the mean, but also when they become excessively hooked or flat dispose the nostrils in such a way as no longer to resemble the nasal organ.

DEFINITION OF HAPPINESS.

Let happiness be defined to be good fortune in union with virtue—or independency of life—or the life that is most agreeable attended with security—or plenty of property and slaves, with the power to preserve and augment it; for all mankind agree that one or more of these things amount nearly to happiness.

EVILS BRING MEN TOGETHER.

Whence it is said that misery brings men together, when the same thing happens to be hurtful to both.

So Shakespeare ("Tempest," act ii. sc. 2)—

"Misery acquaints a man with strange bedfellows."

"A SOFT ANSWER."

Towards such as acknowledge themselves to be justly punished we cease from our wrath.

So Proverbs (xv. 1)—"A soft answer turneth away wrath."

"NO FEAR IN LOVE."

For no one loves the man whom he fears.

So 1 John (iv. 18)—"There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear."

SIGNS OF ARROGANCE.

Again, to talk about one's self, and to be one's own trumpeter, and to assert that to be one's own which belongs to another, these are proofs of arrogance.

ALL THINGS FULL OF GOD.

All things are full of the gods.

So Psalms (lxxii. 19)—"Let the whole earth be full of His glory."

ALL MEN HAVE AN IDEA OF GOD.

All men have some knowledge of the gods.

So Ephesians (iv. 6)—"One God and Father of all."

THE WORLD WAS CREATED.

All say that the world was created.

THE UNIVERSE.

The Power that extends over everything has arranged the whole universe, compelling the most opposite natures to harmonize, and by these ensuring safety to all.

GOD IS A SPIRIT.

In regard to the Deity we must consider Him as (a spirit) the most powerful, immortal, and perfection itself; wherefore, being invisible to mortal eyes, He is seen by his works.

So 1 Timothy (i. 17)—"Now, unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honor and glory forever and ever."

GOD FROM ETERNITY TO ETERNITY.

God extends from eternity to eternity.

So Psalms (xc. 2)—“Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever Thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God.”

GOD IS HAPPY AND BLESSED.

God is happy and blessed from nothing external to Himself, but Himself from Himself.

So 1 Timothy (vi. 15)—“Who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords.”

GOD IS SELF-SUFFICIENT.

It is evident that God stands in need of nothing.

So Psalms (l. 9, 10)—“I will take no bullock out of thy house, . . . for every beast of the forest is mine.”

ONE GOD WITH VARIOUS NAMES.

Though he be one Being, God has many names, being called according to the variety of outward conditions of things, which he is always changing.

So 1 Corinthians (viii. 4)—“There is none other God but one.”

ARRIANUS.

FLOURISHED A.D. 136.

FLAVIUS ARRIANUS, a native of Nicomedia in Bithynia, flourished in the reign of Adrian, when we find him, A.D. 136, governor of Cappadocia. He was one of the most celebrated pupils of the philosopher Epictetus, under whom he studied at Nicopolis in Epirus. The first work which he published was called “*Encheiridion*” (The Manual), and contains the moral doctrines of his

master, being still preserved. He also wrote a work entitled "The Philosophical Disquisitions of Epictetus," of which four books still remain. But the work by which he is best known to us is the "History of Alexander's Campaigns in Asia," in seven books, for which he derived the materials chiefly from the histories of Ptolemy, son of Lagus, and Aristobulus, who both accompanied Alexander. As a continuation to his history, he wrote a little work, still extant, entitled "On India." Another treatise ascribed to him is, "The Periplus of the Erythræan Sea."

THE WISH FATHER TO THE THOUGHT.

When men are doubtful of the true state of things, their wishes lead them to believe in what is most agreeable.

A VIRTUOUS LIFE.

To lead a virtuous life is pleasant, and to die is by no means bitter to these who look forward to immortal fame.

THE EVENTS OF FORTUNE ARE UNEXPECTED.

The events of fortune are unexpected, and therefore can never be guarded against by men.

AXIONICUS.

AXIONICUS, an Athenian poet of the middle comedy, of whom some fragments have been preserved.

LENDING MONEY TO THE WICKED.

When a man lends money to the wicked, he justly gets pain for his interest.

BATON.

FLOURISHED ABOUT B.C. 280.

BATON, an Athenian comic poet of the new comedy, flourished about B.C. 280, of whom we have some fragments.

TO ERR IS HUMAN.

Being a man, thou hast erred; but in life it is a wonder if a man has been prosperous through life.

BION.

FLOURISHED ABOUT B.C. 280.

BION, a bucolic poet, was born at Phlossæ, on the river Meles, near Smyrna, but little is known of his history except what is told us in the third Idyll of Moschus, who laments his untimely death by poison. Some of his poems are extant entire, but of others we have only fragments.

“THE KING OF TERRORS.”

Thou fliest far, O Adonis, and comest to Acheron and its gloomy and cruel king, but I live in misery, and am a goddess, and cannot follow thee.

Virgil (Georg. iv. 469) says—“And he approached the Manes and their fearful king, hearts not to be softened by the prayers of men.”

In Job (xviii. 14) we find—“His confidence shall be rooted out of his tabernacle; and it shall bring him to the King of Terrors.”

Spenser, in his “Faërie Queen,” says—

“O what avails it of immortal seed
To been ybred, and never born to die;
For better I it deem to die with speed,
Than waste with woe and wallful miserie.”

“HE SHALL FLEE AWAY AS A DREAM.”

Art thou dying, O thrice-regretted? Away my love did fly, even as a dream; and widowed is Cytherea, and idle are the Loves along my halls.

Thus Job (xx. 8)—“He shall fly away as a dream, and shall not be found; yea, he shall be chased away as a vision of the night.”

A LUXURIOUS LIFE.

Lay him down on those soft vestments, in which he slept the livelong night with thee, on a golden couch. Long thou for Adonis, a sad sight though he be; and lay him amid chaplets of flowers; all with him, since he is dead, ay, all flowers have become withered.

In St. Luke (vii. 25) we find—“Behold, they which are gorgeously apparelled, and live delicately, are in king’s courts.”

Milton in his “Comus,” near the end, says—

“Beds of hyacinths and roses
Where young Adonis oft reposes,
Waxing well of his deep wound,
In slumber soft; and on the ground
Sadly sits th’ Assyrian queen.”

SIGN OF MOURNING.

Around him the weeping Loves set up the wail, having their locks shorn for Adonis; and one was trampling on his arrows, another on his bow, and another was breaking his well-feathered quiver.

In Ezekiel (xxvii. 31) we find the same customs—“They shall make themselves utterly bald for thee.” And in Ovid. (*Amor.* iii. 9, 7)—“Behold the son of Venus bears his upturned quiver, and broken bow and quenched torch.”

“DANCE TURNED INTO MOURNING.”

Hymenæus has quenched every torch at the door-posts, shredded and flung the marriage-

wreath away; and no more is Hymen, no more is sung Hymen the song, but alas! alas! is chanted: alas, alas! for Adonis wail the Graces far more than Hymenæus.

In Lamentations (v. 15) we find—"The joy of our heart is ceased; our dance is turned into mourning."

THE OLD.

But the old man, smiling, shook his head, and answered the boy.

In Ecclesiasticus (xii. 18) we find—"He will shake his head and clap his hands and whisper much and change his countenance."

BRIEFNESS OF TIME.

For if Saturn's son or Fate had assigned us a two-fold lifetime, so that one portion might be passed in joys and pleasures, and one in woes, it might be possible that he who had his woes first should have his joys at last. But since the gods have allotted but one life to man, and this a brief one—too brief for all we have to do—why should we, ah! wretched men, toil and moil over never-ending labors? To what end should we waste our health on gains and arts, sighing always for more wealth? We surely all forget our mortal state—how brief the life allotted us by Fate.

Job (xiv. 1) says—"Man that is born of a woman is of few days and full of trouble." And in the Epistle of James (iv. 13)—"Go to now, ye that say, To-day or to-morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain; whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow: for what is life? It is even a vapor, that appeareth for a little time and then vanisheth away."

THE DROP.

From the frequent drop, as the proverb says, ever falling, even the stone is worn at last into a hollow.

BEAUTY AND GRACE.

Beauty is good for women, firmness for men.

CALLIMACHUS.

FLOURISHED FROM B.C. 260 TO B.C. 240.

CALLIMACHUS was a member of the powerful house at Cyrene, named from its founder Battus, the Battiadæ. Born probably at Cyrene, he was a pupil of the grammarian Hermocrates, and flourished in the reign of Ptolemy Philadelphus, dying in that of Euergetes, his son and successor. He was chief librarian of the celebrated library at Alexandria, being contemporary of Theocritus and Aratus. Callimachi quæ supersunt recensuit et cum notarum delectu, edidit C. J. Blomfield, Londini, 1815.

“LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YE GATES.”

Now ye bolts of your own accord fall back, and ye bars, for the god is at hand.

So Isaiah (vi. 4)—“And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke.” And Psalm (xxiv. 7)—“Lift up your heads. O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.”

THE GOOD SHALL SEE GOD.

Apollo is seen by none except the just; whoso sees him, great is he; little is the man who hath not seen him.

So Matthew (v. 8)—“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.”

“HEALING IN HIS WINGS.”

The tresses of Apollo drop not mere oil, but healing itself.

So Malachi (iv. 2)—“But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of Righteousness arise with healing in his wings.”

CRATES.

FLOURISHED ABOUT B.C. 450.

CRATES, a comic poet of Athens, of the old comedy, flourished B.C. 450, being originally an actor in the plays of Cratinus. He is highly praised by Aristophanes for wit and abilities. He excelled chiefly in mirth and fun.

TIME.

For time has bent me, a wise workman no doubt, but making all things weaker.

CRATINUS.

BORN B.C. 519—DIED B.C. 422.

CRATINUS, one of the most celebrated of the Athenian poets belonging to the old comedy, was the son of Callimedes. He was born B.C. 519, being six years younger than Æschylus, and died at the age of ninety-seven, B.C. 422 (Lucian. Macrob. 25). He is accused of having been much addicted to wine, and in other respects his private character was by no means reputable (Hor. Ep. i. 20, 21; Sch.

Aristoph. Pax. 700). He wrote twenty-one plays, and of these he gained the prize nine times (Suid.) Athenæus gives the titles and some fragments of eighteen plays.

THE FOOL.

The fool goes like the sheep, saying, bah, bah!

DEMOSTHENES.

BORN B.C. 382—DIED B.C. 322.

DEMOSTHENES, the most celebrated of the Greek orators, was a native of Athens, being the son of Demosthenes and of Cleobulë, who was of Scythian extraction. His father died when he was only seven years of age, and left to him a considerable property, which he had amassed by the manufacture of warlike implements. He tell us (Demosth. Cor. 312-22) that his education was such as his fortune entitled him to; though Plutarch states that it was much neglected through the foolish indulgence of his mother. His property was, at all events, greatly mismanaged by his guardians, and he found himself obliged, as soon as he had reached the age of manhood, to call them to account. It is said that he was first excited to devote himself to the study of eloquence by listening to the speech of Callistratus in defence of the city Oropus, and by observing his triumphant reception by the people. He studied under Isæus the art of oratory, though Isocrates was at this time the most eminent in his profession. His first attempt was in the cause against his guardians, B.C. 366; and though he gained it after some difficulty, he found that his

property was so much diminished that it would be necessary to apply his talents to business. In the profession which he had chosen he had great difficulties to surmount; his constitution was weak, his manner awkward, and he had besides a very defective utterance. In his first attempts he was repeatedly laughed at; but, by unflinching perseverance, he completely got the better of all his defects, and shone forth the most perfect orator the world ever produced. It was in his twenty-seventh year, B.C. 355, that he made his first appearance in a political cause. Leptines had got a law passed forbidding any citizen, except the descendants of Harmodius and Aristogeiton, to be exempted from certain magistracies which entailed very heavy expenses. Demosthenes attacked the justice of this law in the case of Ctesippus, who considered the merits of his father, Chabrias, to confer on him a right of exemption. The same year he composed the speech against Androtion, which he did not deliver. It would appear that Demosthenes was in the habit of writing speeches for citizens, who themselves pronounced them. In one case he actually composed both the accusation and the defence. The fierce and impetuous character of Demosthenes fitted him more peculiarly for the part of an accuser; and it has been accordingly remarked that, of the numerous speeches that have come down to us, scarcely any of them are written for the defendant. In the year B.C. 353 he delivered his speech in favor of Megalopolis, a colony protected by the Thebans, but which the Spartans, the allies of Athens, wished to destroy. It is one of the most striking examples not so much of his eloquence as of his art, in which he did not less excel. The great leading idea which seems, from the moment he entered public

life, to have directed his whole conduct, was opposition to Philip and his objects of aggrandizement. Eleven speeches, delivered within the space of fifteen years, under the name of "Philippics" and "Olynthiacs," show the unwearied spirit with which he maintained what he considered to be the interest of his country. He was one of the ambassadors who proceeded to Macedon to negotiate a peace with Philip; and he was so dissatisfied with the conduct of his colleague, Æschines, that he brought the matter B.C. 343, before the people in one of his most able and powerful speeches. Æschines defended himself with equal ability, and was so ably supported by the party of Eubulus, that he was acquitted. The battle of Chæronœa followed soon afterwards, B.C. 338, which placed Greece at the mercy of Philip; but though the orator had not distinguished himself by his bravery in the field, he did not despair of the cause of his country. Philip fell by the dagger of an assassin, B.C. 336, and Demosthenes again conceived hopes of the entire independence of his country. The destruction, however, of Thebes by Alexander soon dispelled that illusion, and he found himself one of those ten orators whom that prince required the Athenians to deliver up to him. This demand Athens would have found no means of resisting, if Demades, the friend of Alexander, had not succeeded in procuring its remission. During this period of Grecian servitude the energies of Demosthenes were called forth in his own defence. Even after the fatal battle of Chæronœa the war party at Athens still continued powerful, and it was no doubt of importance to them that they should show it to the public by some decisive act. With this view Ctesiphon, one of the party, proposed the decree for crowning Demosthenes on ac-

count of his services; but as these had reference chiefly to the late unsuccessful war, it was in fact an approval of all that had been done. This was felt by Æschines, who was at the head of the opposite party, and finding that the law had not been observed in every particular, he took advantage of this circumstance to bring the matter before the people; but though the suit was commenced against Ctesiphon the same year, it was not till B.C. 330 that it was tried. It was then that Demosthenes made that celebrated speech, *περὶ Στεφάνου*, which is considered as one of his finest specimens of eloquence. Æschines failed in proving his case, and as a heavy fine would have been the consequence, he preferred to leave his country. When Harpalus fled to Athens with the treasures of Alexander, Demosthenes was accused of accepting a bribe from him, and though he denied the accusation with much vehemence, he was found guilty, and fined fifty talents. He escaped the payment of this fine by retiring to the island Ægina, B.C. 325; but he does not appear to have endured his banishment with the equanimity worthy of his character and high name. On the death of Alexander he was recalled, and proceeded to organize a new league of opposition to the Macedonian power. Antipater, however, soon put an end to it, and the death of Demosthenes was pronounced by his own citizens at the instance of Demades. Demosthenes, with some of his friends who were involved in the same sentence, escaped from Athens by the connivance even of his enemies, and he took refuge in the small island of Calauria in the temple of Neptune. He was followed by some of the friends of Antipater, and, as he saw no means of escape, he placed a poisoned pen in his mouth, and died a short time afterwards.

THE ACTIVE AND INTREPID CONTRASTED WITH THE
SLUGGISH.

The dominions of the absent belong naturally to those in the field; the property of the lazy and inactive to those who are willing to undergo labor and danger.

MEN WILLING TO UNITE THEMSELVES WITH THE
BRAVE.

For all are willing to unite and to take part with those whom they see ready and willing to put forth their strength as they ought.

CURIOSITY OF THE ATHENIANS.

Or is it your greatest pleasure, tell me, wandering through the public squares to inquire of each other, "What news?"

So Acts (xvii. 21)—"For all the Athenians, and strangers which were there, spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell or to hear some new thing."

ALLIANCES WITH DESPOTS DANGEROUS TO FREE
STATES.

For those close and intimate alliances with despots are never safe to free states.

DISTRUST OF DESPOTS THE GREATEST SECURITY
OF FREE STATES.

Various are the devices for the defence and security of cities, as palisades, walls, ditches, and other such kinds of fortification, all which are the result of the labors of the hand, and maintained at great expense. But there is one common bulwark, which men of prudence possess within themselves—the protection and guard of all people, especially of free states, against the attacks of tyrants. What is this? Distrust.

A TYRANT.

For every king and tyrant is an enemy to freedom, and an opposer of equal laws.

THE ADVANTAGES OF SOCIETY SHOULD BE SHARED
BY ALL ITS MEMBERS.

For, Athenians, all ranks of citizens should have an equal share in the advantages of society: the rich ought to feel secure, and have no dread of the confiscation of their property, thus being willing and ready to contribute of their wealth to the defence of their country; the rest of the citizens should look upon public property to belong to all, and be satisfied with their just share, but all private fortunes as the inalienable right of the possessors. Thus a small state may expect to rise to eminence, and a great one to maintain its high place in the world.

THE BOND THAT UNITES CONFEDERATE POWERS.

For I am well convinced that, when confederate powers are united by affection and identical interests, their agreement may be expected to last; whereas, if the alliance has been formed to carry out fraudulent and rapacious objects, accompanied by deceit and violence (as has been the case on this occasion), any slight pretext or accident will serve to give it a shock, from which it will not easily recover.

SUCCESS VEILS MEN'S EVIL DEEDS.

For success has a great tendency to conceal and throw a veil over the evil deeds of men.

RESULT OF A REVERSE OF FORTUNE IN GOVERNMENTS.

It happens as in our bodies: when a man is in sound and vigorous health, none of the weak parts

of his body are felt; but when he is laid up by illness, every ailment is made worse, whether it be a fracture, or a dislocation, or any other member that has been injured. So in kingdoms and governments: as long as they are favored by victory, little notice is paid to the disorders in the state by the mass of the people; but when a reverse of fortune takes place, what is unsound becomes palpable to every eye.

ABSOLUTE MONARCHIES DANGEROUS TO FREE
STATES.

In short, free states, in my opinion, ought to have a wholesome dread of absolute monarchies, especially if they are situated in their immediate neighborhood.

THE ULTIMATE EVENT DETERMINES MAN'S JUDG-
MENT.

If a man succeeds in preserving what he has acquired, he is willing enough to acknowledge the kindness of fortune; but if he squanders it foolishly, in parting with it he parts with any feeling of gratitude. So also in political affairs, those who do not make a good use of their opportunities forget the favors which they may have received from the gods. For it is the end which generally determines man's judgment of what has gone before.

TO FIND FAULT IS EASY.

To find fault, some one may say, is easy, and in every man's power; but to point out the proper course to be pursued in the present circumstances, that is the proof of a wise counsellor.

RESULT OF UNEXPECTED SUCCESS.

For great and unexpected successes are often the cause of the foolish rushing into acts of extravagance.

POWER CANNOT BE FOUNDED UPON INJUSTICE.

For it is not, O Athenians—it is not, I assure you, possible for lasting power to be founded upon injustice, perjury, and treachery. These may, indeed, succeed for once, and for a short time, putting on the gay and gaudy appearance of hope; but they are at last found out, and bring to ruin all who trust in them. For as in buildings of every kind the foundation ought to be the strongest, so the bases and principles of actions should be true and just.

THREATS WITHOUT CORRESPONDENT ACTIONS ARE
CONTEMPTIBLE.

For words and threats, if they are not accompanied by action, cannot but appear vain and contemptible.

HELP YOURSELF AND YOUR FRIENDS WILL HELP
YOU.

No man, who will not make an effort for himself, need apply for aid to his friends, and much less to the gods.

MAN IS APT TO BLAME EVERY ONE BUT HIMSELF.

For in the emergencies of war no one of those who fly ever think of accusing himself; he will rather blame the general, or his fellow-soldiers, or anything else; yet the defeat was certainly occasioned by the cowardice of each individual. For he who accuses others might have maintained

his own post, and if each had done so, success must have been the result.

WE READILY BELIEVE WHAT WE WISH.

So that nothing is so easy as to deceive one's self; for what we wish, that we readily believe; but such expectations are often inconsistent with the real state of things.

We find the same idea in "Achilles Tatius de Leucippes et Chitophontis Amoribus" (lib. vi. 17)—"For the words which show the hope of obtaining the wished-for object are readily believed; which arises from this, that the simple desire aiding the wishes excites the hope."

And again, in "Heliodorus" (lib. viii.), we find—

"For what the mind wishes, that it also believes."

LOW PURSUITS ENGENDER LOW SENTIMENTS.

It is impossible for those who are engaged in low and grovelling pursuits to entertain noble and generous sentiments. No; their thoughts must always necessarily be somewhat similar to their employments.

LET THE PROSPEROUS SHOW KINDNESS TO THE
UNHAPPY.

Those enjoying prosperity should always be ready to assist the unfortunate, for no one can say what the future may bring forth.

IN POLITICAL TRANSACTIONS THE POWERFUL
PRESCRIBE TO THE WEAK.

For in civil society the rights of individuals, without reference to their power or weakness in the state, are determined by the laws. But in national concerns the powerful always prescribe to the weaker.

THE PRAISING OF A MAN'S SELF IS BURDENSOME.

It is the natural disposition of all men to listen with pleasure to abuse and slander of their neighbor, and to hear with impatience those who utter praises of themselves.

So Proverbs (xxvii. 2)—“Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth; a stranger, and not thine own lips.”

THE TRUE BOND OF FRIENDSHIP.

For it is not words that give strength to friendship, but a similarity of interests.

So Proverbs (xvii. 24)—“A man that hath friends must show himself friendly; and there is a Friend that sticketh closer than a brother.”

A TRAITOR.

It is not the benefit of the traitor that is looked to by the man who bribes him, nor, after he has obtained what he bargained for, is he ever afterwards taken into confidence. If it were so, no one would be happier than a traitor. How should it be so? It is impossible. For when the ambitious man has once succeeded in gaining his object, then knowing the utter baseness of the man, he holds him in detestation, distrusts, and treats him with supreme contempt.

ON WHAT MEN'S CONDUCT SHOULD BE MODELLED.

Private individuals and public bodies should take as their pattern those actions by which they have acquired their fame.

THE TRULY BRAVE.

For death is the inevitable close of every man's life, however much he may try to save it by skulking in some obscure corners; but the truly brave should not hesitate to draw the sword on all hon-

orable occasions, armed with fair hopes of success, and, whatever may be the result, to bear with resignation the will of Providence.

A STATESMAN.

And, doing this, you proceed to draw the portrait of a statesman, as if having given a model for a statue, you found that the artist had not attended to your directions, forgetting that the character of a statesman is to be shadowed forth not by words but by actions, and the success of his administration.

THE SOWER OF MISCHIEF.

For the sower of the seed is assuredly the author of the whole harvest of mischief.

So Proverbs (vi. 14)—“Frowardness is in his heart, he deviseth mischief continually; he soweth discord.”

THE TRUE COUNSELLOR AND THE SYCOPHANT.

For the true counsellor and the flattering sycophant differ from each other particularly in this. The former openly declares his opinion on the proper course to be pursued before the event, and makes himself responsible for his advice to fortune, to the times, and to those whom he has influenced. The latter is silent when he ought to speak; but if anything unfortunate takes place, he dwells on it with invidious earnestness.

MISFORTUNES.

Misfortunes are the lot of all men, whenever it may please Heaven to inflict them.

OUR FATHERLAND COMPREHENDS EVERY ENDEARMENT.

Each of them was firmly convinced that a man was born not merely for his parents but also for

his country. You may ask what is the difference. It is very clear, for he who thinks himself born only for his parents awaits the fated hour with calm submission, whereas the other will boldly meet his fate that he may not see his country enslaved, and will consider those insults and disgraces which he must endure in a state of slavery as much more to be dreaded than death itself.

MAN PROPOSES, GOD DISPOSES.

Whatever was the duty of brave men, they were all ready to perform, but the sovereign Lord of the universe decided the fate of each.

AN ACCUSER.

A false accuser is a monster, a dangerous monster, ever and in every way malignant and ready to seek causes of complaint.

A MINISTER OF STATE.

What, then, are the duties of a minister of state? —to watch the rise of every event, to look into the future and forewarn his fellow-citizens of what may happen. This is precisely what I have done. And then, again, to confine within the narrowest limits the fatal results that naturally arise from irresolution, lukewarmness, prejudices, and party spirit; and, on the other hand, to lead men's minds to peace, good understanding, and to rouse them to a vigorous defence of their just rights.

BRIBES.

By resisting his bribes, I conquered Philip; for as the purchaser conquers when a man sells himself, so the man who refuses to be sold, and disdains to be corrupted, conquers the purchaser.

WE KNOW NOT WHAT A DAY MAY BRING FORTH.

The man who is in the highest state of prosperity, and who thinks his fortune most secure, knows not if it will remain unchanged till the evening.

So Proverbs (xxvii. 1)—“Boast not thyself of to-morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.”

TO REMIND OF KINDNESS IS TO REPROACH.

For it is in accordance with my principles to believe that he who receives a favor must retain a recollection of it for all time to come, but that he who confers should at once forget it, if he is not to show a sordid and ungenerous spirit. To remind a man of a kindness conferred on him, and to talk of it, is little different from reproach.

THE LOYAL STATESMAN.

It is not the language, it is not the tone of voice of a public speaker that is to be considered, but such an approximation of feelings and interests with his fellow-citizens, that both his enemies and friends are the same with those of his country. For he who is thus animated, he it is who will speak his sentiments with an honest zeal. But he who pays court to those who threaten danger to the state, is not embarked in the same vessel with his fellow-citizens, and therefore does not look forward to the same results for his safety.

THE GODS.

Chance to despise, and fortune to control,
Doth to the immortal gods alone pertain;
Their joys unchanged, in endless currents roll;
But mortals combat with their fate in vain.

THE VIRTUOUS CITIZEN.

There are two qualities which ought always to distinguish a virtuous citizen: he ought, in the high offices of state, to maintain the honor and pre-eminence of his country, and in all times and circumstances to show kindly feelings; these are dependent upon nature, but abilities and success are the gifts of another power.

DIOGENES LAËRTIUS.

DIOGENES surnamed Laërtius, from the town of Laerta in Cilicia wrote the "Lives of the Philosophers." When he lived is unknown, but probably he belonged to the second century of our era.

GOD IS OUR FATHER AND CREATOR.

God is the creator of the universe, and also the father of all things, in common with all, and a part of him penetrating all things.

CHAOS.

There was once a time when all things were huddled together.

So Genesis (i. 1)—"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."

GRANDEUR OF THE WORLD.

The world is perfectly beautiful, for it is a work of God.

THE WAY TO THE GRAVE.

The way to the world below is easy, for men go to it with shut eyes.

So 1 Samuel (xx. 3)—"There is but a step between thee and death."

THE WICKED.

The impure souls are bound by the Furies in chains that cannot be broken.

So Matthew (xxii. 13)—“Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outward darkness.”

HEAVEN OUR FATHERLAND.

To one who said to Anaxagoras, “Hast thou no regard for thy fatherland?” “Softly,” said he, “I have great regard for my fatherland,” pointing to heaven.

So John (xiv. 2)—“In my father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.”

CURSE NOT YOUR ENEMY.

Speak not ill of your friend, and curse not your enemy.

LAW OF GOD.

He (Plato) regarded justice as God’s law. There are two divisions of law, the one written, the other unwritten: the one arising from nature and habit is called unwritten.

This is referred to by Seneca (Controv. 1)—“Laws not written, but more certain in their influence than laws that are written.”

So Romans (ii. 14, 15)—“For when the gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these having not the law, are a law unto themselves: which show the work of the law written in their hearts. their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the meanwhile accusing or else excusing one another.”

WHAT IS GOOD IN THEE IS OF GOD.

Most men are bad; whatever good thing thou doest, ascribe to God.

So Philippians (ii. 13)—“For it is God which worketh in you, both to will and to do of His good pleasure;” and Sirach

(vi. 37)—“Let thy mind meditate continually on God’s commandments: He shall establish thine heart, and give thee wisdom at thine own desire.”

DIONYSIUS OF HALICARNASSUS.

FLOURISHED FROM B.C. 29 TO B.C. 7.

DIONYSIUS, a celebrated writer on Latin antiquities, was a native of Halicarnassus, and came to Rome about B.C. 29, at the close of the civil wars. Here he continued for twenty-two years, making himself acquainted with the customs and transactions of the Romans. His work is entitled “*Roman Antiquities*,” and goes back to the origin of the nations of Italy. It closed with the year B.C. 265, the year before the first Punic war, when the history of Polybius properly begins. It contains many details on the laws and customs of Rome, which are valuable, as they are nowhere else to be found. It was contained in twenty books, of which eleven only have come down to us, with some fragments of the others. They bring the history of Rome down to B.C. 440.

THE WORKS OF AN AUTHOR ARE THE IMAGE OF HIS
MIND.

For the general observation is strictly correct, that the works of an author may be considered the representation of his mind.

SUPERIORS GOVERN INFERIORS.

It is a common law of nature, which no time will ever change, that superiors shall rule their inferiors.

A NATION IMPROVED BY SUFFERINGS AND DIFFICULTIES.

But, above all these, by their form of government, which they improved by learning wisdom from the various misfortunes which happened to them, always extracting something useful from every occurrence.

So Romans (v. 3)—“Knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope.”

EVERYTHING INVOLUNTARY DESERVES FORGIVENESS.

Everything that is involuntary deserves to be forgiven.

GOD.

God is incapable of doing anything which is unworthy of a pure and happy nature.

So Psalms (cxvi. 5)—“Gracious is the Lord, God is merciful.”

THE RESULTS OF GOOD AND BAD NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

The form of government, when it has been prudently established, produces citizens distinguished for bravery, justice, and every other good quality; whereas, on the other hand, bad institutions render men cowardly, rapacious, and slaves of every foul desire.

CAUSES OF GOOD GOVERNMENT IN STATES.

He was of opinion that the good government of states arose from causes which are always the subject of praise by politicians, but are seldom attended to: first, the aid and favor of the gods, which give success to every human undertaking; next, attention to moderation and justice, by love of which citizens are induced to refrain from in-

juring each other, and to join in cordial union—making virtue, not shameful pleasures, the measure of their happiness; and, lastly, military courage, which renders even the other virtues to be advantageous to their possessors.

MERCY.

Believing that mercy does not in a small degree tend to alleviate the common evils which flesh is heir to.

So Psalms (xxv. 10)—“All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth:” and (xxxiii. 5)—“The earth is full of the mercy of the Lord;” and Matthew (v. 7)—“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.”

So Shakespeare (“*Merchant of Venice*,” act iv. sc. 1)—

“The quality of mercy is not strained;
It droppeth, as the gentle rain from heaven
Upon the place beneath. it is twice blessed;
It blesseth him that gives, and him that takes.
'Tis mightiest in the mightiest; it becomes
The thronèd monarch better than his crown:
His sceptre shows the force of temporal power,
The attribute to awe and majesty,
Wherein doth sit the dread and fear of kings:
But mercy is above this sceptred sway;
It is enthronèd in the hearts of kings,
It is an attribute to God himself;
And earthly power doth then show likest God's,
When mercy seasons justice. Therefore, Jew,
Though justice be thy plea, consider this,—
That in the course of justice, none of us
Should see salvation; we do pray for mercy;
And that same prayer doth teach us all to render
The deeds of mercy.”

CURE FOR ENVY.

For the only cure for envy is to look upon the prosperity of the envied person as belonging to one's self.

THE POOR.

For a generous and noble spirit cannot be expected to dwell in the breast of men who are struggling for their daily bread.

LIBERTY.

The love of liberty is implanted by nature in the breasts of all men.

P. Henry (Speech, March, 1775) says—

“ Give me liberty or give me death.”

ENMITIES TO BE GIVEN UP TO FRIENDSHIP.

Considering that it is the part of wise men to give up their enmities to friendships, and that of senseless men and barbarians to confound friends with enemies.

WE JUDGE OF OTHERS BY OURSELVES.

Since it is the custom of all men to judge of the proceedings of others by what they would do themselves, and to consider things credible or incredible by their own experience.

NECESSITY.

For necessity is stronger than human nature.

THE CAUSE OF THE SUBVERSION OF GOVERNMENTS.

He requested them to recollect that governments are not put an end to by the poor, and those who have no power, when they are compelled to do justice; but by the rich, and those who have a right by their position to administer public affairs, when they are insulted by their inferiors, and cannot obtain justice.

THE MOB SHOULD NOT GOVERN.

He said that the commonwealth had in some respects a resemblance to man; for the senate might be considered the soul, and the people the body. If, then, they allowed the senseless people to rule the senate, they were doing very much the same thing as if they made the soul subject to the body, and were to live under the influence of their passions and not of their reason. Whereas if they accustomed the people to be governed and directed by the senate, they would act like those who subject the body to the soul, and who lead the best, not the most voluptuous lives.

CHARACTER OF A FOOL.

It is the character of fools to be overbearing when they are flattered, and to yield when they are looked in the face.

So Proverbs (xii. 15)—“The way of a fool is right in his own eyes,” and (xv. 2)—“The mouth of fools poureth out foolishness.”

THE GRATITUDE OF SOME MEN IS FOR FAVORS
TO COME.

For the feelings of men, when they are looking for a favor, are very different from those of the same men when they have succeeded in obtaining it.

ALL MEN MUST DIE.

For death is the fate of all men, the coward equally with the brave; but the brave alone enjoy a noble and glorious death.

So Psalms (xlix. 10)—“For he seeth that wise men die, also the fool.”

THE ORIGIN OF A TYRANT.

For it is evident to all that a tyrant springs from a flatterer of the people, and that the shortest way for those who desire to enslave their country is to acquire power by the lowest demagogues.

CIVIL WAR.

All know that there is nothing more unhappy than a civil war, in which the conquered are unfortunate and the conquerors are culpable, and in which the former are destroyed by, and the latter destroy, their dearest friends.

REPENTANCE.

The repentance of those who learn wisdom late, though it be an inferior quality to that of those who are gifted with forethought, yet if we look at it in another light, it is seen to be not less valuable from causing the original error to disappear by preventing its consequences.

TIME THE BEST INTERPRETER OF AN AMBIGUOUS
LAW.

The greatest proof of this is time, which is the best interpreter of every ambiguous law.

THE MULTITUDE.

For the multitude generally give birth to tyranny.

THE GODS ENVIOUS OF EMINENCE.

The gods take umbrage at the illustrious, when they have reached the acme of fortune, and turn them again to nothing.

BOLDNESS INSPIRED BY DANGERS.

For necessity is of mighty power; and every man, when his whole fortune is at stake, is in-

spired with a boldness which nature had previously denied him.

LOVE AND HATRED.

For we all love those who do us good, and hate those who do us harm,—a law which has neither been given to us by man, nor can they annul it when they choose; but it is the universal and eternal law of nature, bestowed upon all who have common sense, and which will ever remain in force.

COMPULSORY ENGAGEMENTS.

Since all engagements, both public and private, that take their rise from necessity or from particular emergencies, soon come to an end, when the conjunctures or necessity ceases.

THE SHADES BELOW AND ELYSIUM.

If there be any place where the souls of men dwell after death, it will not be that subterraneous and gloomy place, the abode, as is said, of the wicked, nor the plain of Lethe, as it is called, that will receive mine, but the lofty and pure ether, where, they say, those who are sprung from the gods lead a happy and blessed life.

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER.

For it is better to begin late doing our duty than never.

VOLUNTARY GIFTS.

For gifts that are bestowed with good will are not only given with greater pleasure by those who grant them than such as are extorted, but are also more lasting to those who receive them.

THE GRATIFICATION OF WICKED DESIRES.

For the gratification of wicked desires does not tend to satiate them, but only inflames them the more, and renders them still more vicious.

DEMETRIUS.

FLOURISHED ABOUT B.C. 412.

DEMETRIUS, an Athenian comic poet of the old comedy, of which there are several fragments remaining.

WICKEDNESS.

Wickedness is very easily overtaken; for always looking to gain only, it goes forward foolishly, and is hastily induced to come to a decision.

DIPHILUS.

FLOURISHED B.C. 320.

DIPHILUS, a comic poet, was the contemporary of Menander, and therefore flourished about 320 B.C. He was a native of Sinopë in Asia Minor, and is said to have composed 100 comedies, of which only a few fragments have been preserved. Fabricius cites the titles of 46 of these plays. Both Terence and Plautus derived some of their materials from him.

MAN IS BORN TO TROUBLE.

O happy man! being mortal, know that thou art born to trouble, in order that thou mayest suffer only in what is necessary, and not add to it by thy folly.

GOOD FORTUNE IS ONLY FOR A DAY.

No misery is unlooked for by men, for we find good fortune lasting only for a day.

TIME.

My friend, time is the workman of the state; it rejoices to mould all things to the worse.

DEATH RELEASES MAN FROM TROUBLES.

There is no life that has not evils, griefs, sorrows, annoyances, torments, diseases; death, appearing as the physician of these, proceeds to release these who are thus affected, making them to cease by sleep.

A SORDID LOVE OF MONEY.

A sordid love of money is certainly a very senseless thing, for the mind much occupied with it is blind to everything else.

CONSCIENCE.

For whosoever is not ashamed when he is conscious to himself of having committed some base act, how will he be ashamed before him who is ignorant of it?

TO BLUSH.

Whoever does not know to blush or be afraid, has the first principles of every kind of baseness.

DIFFICULT TO GATHER, EASY TO SQUANDER.

It is difficult to gather a heap in a long time, but it is easy to squander the whole in a day.

THE POOR.

There is no one more happy than the poor man: he expects no change for the worse.

POVERTY AND BAD CONDUCT.

Poverty united to bad conduct utterly destroys and upturns the life of man.

MAN BORN TO TROUBLE.

I am a mortal; this very thing is the greatest cause of sorrow in life.

THE BLESSINGS AND EVILS OF LIFE.

As fortune, sometimes, when it is bringing up one blessing for us, in pouring out discharges three evils.

NOTHING FIXED IN LIFE.

There is nothing fixed in the life of man; for no one lives steadily in the way that he has chosen.

SHAMELESSNESS.

There is no animal more bold than shamelessness.

MAN.

If thou knowest what man is, thou wilt be more happy.

PRUDENCE.

How completely blessed is prudence in a good disposition!

MORTALITY.

Being born mortal, be not always watching the approach of death; time is the physician of every sorrow.

LIFE IS EVER CHANGING.

The life of man is ever changing.

EUPHRON.

EUPHRON, an Athenian comic poet of the middle comedy, some fragments of whose works have come down to us.

THE FOOL.

For he who manages his own life badly, how is he likely to take proper care of what is external to himself?

SHORTNESS OF LIFE.

Pray, Jupiter, when thou hast granted to us only a short span of life, why dost thou not allow us to pass it without sorrow?

EURIPIDES.

BORN B.C. 481—DIED B.C. 406.

EURIPIDES, the celebrated tragic writer of Athens, son of Mnesarchus and Cleito, is said to have been born on the very day of the battle of Salamis, to which island his parents had been compelled to fly at the time that Athens was threatened by Xerxes. He was a pupil of Prodicus of Chios, and took lessons from the philosopher Anaxagoras. The persecutions which Anaxagoras underwent warned Euripides of the dangerous path he was pursuing, inducing him to renounce the study of philosophy, and direct his attention to the stage. This took place, it is said, in his eighteenth year, and in 455 B.C. he succeeded in gaining the third prize. Of all the plays which he wrote, only five, according to Varro, were reckoned worthy of being crowned; but this fact

may be explained by the violent spirit of rivalry and jealousy which seems to have prevailed at Athens at this time. In his domestic affairs he was by no means fortunate; both his wives disgraced him by the irregularity of their lives; and from this circumstance probably arose his violent hatred of the sex, the weakness of which he took every opportunity of ridiculing and exposing. His private grief became the butt of the comic writers of the day, and Aristophanes more particularly held him up to the ridicule of the public. It was no doubt in consequence of these incessant attacks that Euripides determined to leave Athens. He removed first to Magnesia, and thence to the court of Archelaus, King of Macedonia, who reigned from 413 to 399 B.C., and was then the beneficent patron of literature and science. By him he was received with all that respect to which his distinguished talents entitled him, and some say that he was appointed one of his principal ministers. Here he resided till his death (406 B.C.), which was as full of tragic circumstances as any story ever exhibited upon the stage. As he was strolling through a wood, a pack of the royal hounds attacked the poet, and tore him in pieces. His remains were removed to Pella by the king, and every honor was shown to his memory. The Athenians were now anxious to procure his ashes, but Archelaus refused to gratify those who had neglected the poet in his lifetime.

THE WORDS OF THE WISE.

When a wise man chooses a fit subject for his discourse, there is no difficulty in speaking well; thou hast indeed a fluent tongue; as if thou wert wisdom itself; but thy words have not her power.

A mighty man, when bold and able to speak, is a bad citizen if he lack discretion.

THE TWO BEST THINGS AMONG MEN.

For, young man, there are two things of prime importance among men. Ceres, the goddess, she is the Earth, call her by what name thou wilt: she nourishes mortals with dry food. But he who is come is a match for her, the son of Semele: he has discovered the liquid drink of the grape, introducing it among mortals, causing the wretched to forget their sorrows, when they are filled with the stream of the vine, giving balmy sleep as an oblivion of the anxieties that beset man day by day, nor is there any other medicine that can cure the troubles of life.

GLORY NOT IN THY WISDOM.

But, Pentheus, be persuaded by me, boast not that thy imperial power has rule over men, nor even, if thou thinkest so, glory not in thy wisdom, for thy glorying is vain.

So 'Jeremiah (ix. 23)—“Thus saith the Lord, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches.”

THE FOOL.

For the fool speaks foolish things.

PRIDE BEFORE A FALL.

Misery is the end of unbridled mouths and lawless folly, but a quiet life accompanied by wisdom remains unmoved, and knits together families; for though the heavenly powers dwell in the far distance, inhabiting the air, they behold the deeds of men. But cleverness is not wisdom, nor yet the musing on things that belong not to this

world. Life is short, and who pursuing great things in it would not enjoy the present? These are the manners of madmen and of the ill-disposed in my opinion.

So Matthew (v. 9)—“Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.”

THE IGNORANT.

A person may seem to be ignorant, even though he speak with wisdom, to be foolish.

BE ANGRY AND SIN NOT.

For it is the part of a wise man to practise moderation in passion.

So Ephesians (iv. 26)—“Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath.”

WINE AND LOVE.

For where there is not wine, love fails, and everything else pleasant to man.

THE DELIGHTS OF LIBERTY.

Shall “I trip it on the light fantastic toe” the livelong night in honor of Bacchus, exposing my neck to the dewy air, frisking like a fawn in the delights of the green meadow, when it has escaped a fearful chase away from the well-woven nets (and the huntsman cheers and hurries on his dogs), and toilfully, like the swift storm, speeds along the plain that skirts the river, rejoicing in the solitude, away from men, and in the thickets of the dark foliaged wood?

CRIME FOLLOWED BY PUNISHMENT.

The power of the divinity is called forth slowly, but then it is unerring, chastising those who insanely pay honor to folly, and show not respect

to the gods. The gods cunningly conceal the long step of time, and hunt after the impious. For it is wrong to determine or plan anything contrary to their laws. It is surely a slight matter to regard what is divine as exercising this power, and that what has been law for a long time is eternal, and the dictate of nature.

THE TRULY HAPPY.

Happy the man who has escaped the tempest-tossed sea, and reached the port. Happy he who has got to the end of the labors of life. Men surpass each other in riches and power. Myriads of hopes gay-smiling rise before them. Some continue with them to the close of life, some vanish away. The man who enjoys the smiles of fortune day by day I pronounce to be happy.

REVERENCE OF THE GODS.

To be modest and pay reverence to the gods, this, I think, to be the most honorable and wisest thing for mortals.

DIFFERENT FATES OF MEN.

Various are the fates sent by the gods, and much comes to us that is unexpected; on the one hand, what we look for is not accomplished; and on the other, God finds a way to bring about what we least expected. Such, too, is the end of this awful day.

DIGNITY IN THOSE OF NOBLE BIRTH.

Nobleness is thine, and thy form, lady, is the reflection of thy nature, whoever thou art. For by looking at external appearance one is generally able to learn whether man is noble by nature.

THINGS AGAINST THE WILL OF THE GODS.

For such things as we strive after against the will of the gods, we possess not as real goods, O lady; but what they give us willingly, by these we are benefited.

EVILS OF LIFE.

Countless are the woes of mortals, and various are their forms; but one single blessing for a lengthened period one will scarcely find in the life of men.

A WIFE.

For woman's condition among men is full of ills; for the good women being mixed up with the bad, we are objects of hatred, so wretched are we by nature.

THE BASE PUNISHED BY THE GODS.

For whosoever of mortals is of a base nature, him the gods chastise.

THE CHILDLESS AND THOSE WITH CHILDREN CONTRASTED.

For there is a constant spring of surpassing happiness to mortals when handsome youths flourish in the paternal hall, with wealth to transmit in succession from sires to children; for they are an ever-present aid in troubles, a joy in good fortune, and in war they bring help to their country with their spear. May the nurturing care of kind children be mine in preference to riches and alliances with kings. Childless life I abhor, and I blame him who approves of it. But with a competency of this world's goods may I have a noble offspring.

THINGS NEAR APPEAR DIFFERENT FROM THOSE
AT A DISTANCE.

The appearance of things does not appear the same when seen far off and close at hand.

RIVALS IN POLITICAL HONORS.

The good and wise lead a quiet life, and aim not at the honors of the state; with them I shall incur ridicule, not living tranquilly in the midst of a city full of turmoil. Again, if I aspire to the dignity of those who direct the affairs of the nation, I shall be watched more closely, and subject to hostile votes; for such is usual, my father; those who possess influence are most inimical to those who are their rivals.

ROYAL AND HUMBLE LIFE CONTRASTED.

The outward aspect of vainly-praised sovereignty is indeed delightful, but its inward state is misery. For who can be happy, who can be blessed, dragging on a life full of terrors, and every moment in dread of violence? I would rather live happy in humble life than be a tyrant, forced to choose my friends from the wicked, and hating the good from fear of death. Thou wilt say, no doubt, that gold has sovereign power over such things, and that it is pleasant to be rich. I love not to hear reproach while watching over my riches, and to be subject to toils. What I wish for is a competency, unattended by pains. Now hear, my father, the advantages I have enjoyed in this place. First, indeed, leisure, which is most beloved by men, and no bustling crowd around; nor am I jostled from the path by a knave, for it is intolerable to be obliged to give way to some insolent wretch. I was ever employed in the worship of

the gods or in the service of men, who were surrounded by the happy and not by the mourning. Some, indeed, I sent away, while other strangers came in their place, so that I was always joyful, being new with new faces. That which men should pray for, even if it be against their will, to be just before the gods, custom and nature together brought about in me. Taking these things into consideration, my father, I deem my lot better here than there. Suffer me, then, to live here, for there is equal pleasure to be got in humble life as in the palaces of the great.

A FRIEND.

For it is pleasant to enjoy good fortune with one's friends; but (avert it, Heaven!) if any ill befall, a friend's kind eye beams comfort.

THE DESIGNING AND THE SIMPLE.

Alas! how I always hate ill-designing men, who, devising evil deeds, gild them over with artificial ornament. I would rather have an honest, simple friend, than one whose quicker wit is trained to evil.

THE SLAVE.

For one thing brings shame to slaves—the name. In everything else the slave is nothing worse than the free-born, if he be virtuous.

A STEP-MOTHER.

Thou hast rightly judged; for it is a proverb that step-mothers bear hatred to their step-children.

AID OF HEAVEN.

Slow, indeed, at times, is the aid of the gods, but in the end not weak.

THE GOOD.

But him whose house is threatened with calamities it becomes to worship the gods and be of good cheer; for in the end the good obtain their due, but the wicked, as they are naturally so, will never fare well.

A STEP-MOTHER.

For a step-mother is enemy to the children of the former marriage, no milder than a viper.

THE DEAD.

Time will soften thy grief; he that is dead is nothing.

WISDOM IN THE GOOD.

In the good there is all kind of wisdom.

So John (vii 17)—“If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God.”

THE PIOUS.

My heart is confident that the man who reveres the gods will fare prosperously.

So Psalms (cxi. 10)—“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.”

OLD MAN.

It is vain for old men praying for death, complaining of age and the length of life, since if death come near, not one is willing to die; then old age is no longer burdensome to them.

TO-MORROW UNCERTAIN.

Knowest thou of what nature mortal things are? I think not; how shouldst thou? Death is a debt that all mortals must pay, and there is not one of them who knows whether he shall see the coming morrow; for what depends on fortune is uncer-

tain how it will turn out, and is not to be learned, neither is it to be caught by art. Having, therefore, heard and learned these things from me, be merry, drink, and regard the life granted to thee day by day as thine own, but the rest to be Fortune's.

EFFECT OF WINE.

And well do I know that the trickling of the cup down thy throat will change thee from thy present gloomy and pent state of mind. Being mortals, we should think as mortals; since to all those who are morose and of sad countenance, if they take me as judge at least, life is not truly life, but misery.

HUSBAND AND WIFE.

This is the surest tie of conjugal happiness, when the wife is not estranged from the husband. But everything here is at variance, and the dearest ties are weakened.

YOUTH.

For youth holds no society with grief.

EVERY ONE LOVES HIMSELF MORE THAN HIS
NEIGHBOR.

Dost thou only now know this, that every one loves himself more than his neighbor, some, indeed, with justice, but others for the sake of gain?

ROYAL AND HUMBLE LIFE.

The acts of tyrants are terrible; being seldom controlled, in most things acting despotically. they lay aside with difficulty their passion. To be accustomed to humble life is far better; may it be

my lot then to grow old, not in gorgeous state, but without danger. There is a protection in the very name of moderation, and to enjoy it is far the best for man. Towering greatness remains not long to mortals, and has often brought the greatest woes on families when the Deity is enraged.

MUSIC.

Thou wouldst not err in calling men of the olden time silly and in no way wise who invented songs for festivals, banquets, and suppers, delights that charm the ear; but no one has found out how to soothe with music and sweet symphony those bitter pangs by which death and sad misfortunes destroy families. And yet to assuage such griefs by music were wisdom. For when the banquet is spread, why raise the song? When the table is richly piled, it brings of itself a cheerfulness that wakes the heart to joy.

WOMAN.

Of all beings who have life and sense, we women are most wretched. First of all, we must buy a husband with money, and receive in him a lord; for this is a still greater ill than the former. And then the question is whether we receive a bad or good one. For divorces are not honorable to women, nor is it right to repudiate our husband. For coming to new tempers and new laws, we must be endowed with powers of prophecy if we can know what sort of yoke-fellow we shall have. But should a husband dwell with us, diligently engaged in the performance of our duties, who treats us with kindness, our lot is deserving of envy; if not, death is to be preferred. ' If a man find aught displeasing in his house, going abroad, he seeks relief among his compeers or friends.

We must look for happiness to one only. Men say of us that we live a life of ease at home, while they are fighting with the spear. Misjudging men! thrice would I engage in fierce conflict than once suffer the pangs of childbirth.

A FIERY IS BETTER THAN A SULLEN SPIRIT.

For a woman that is quick in anger, and a man too, can be more easily guarded against than one that is crafty and keeps silence.

EXILE.

Exile draws many evils in its train.

IMPUDENCE.

The worst of all diseases among men is impudence.

THE WICKED.

O Jove! why hast thou given us certain proofs to know adulterate gold, but stamped no mark, where it is most needed, on man's base metal?

THE POWER OF THE RHETORICIAN.

For in my opinion, the unjust man, whose tongue is full of glozing rhetoric, merits the heaviest punishment. Vaunting that he can with his tongue gloze over injustice, he dares to act wickedly, yet he is not over-wise.

GIFTS OF A BAD MAN.

The gifts

Of a bad man can bring no good with them.

TEMPERANCE.

Temperance, the noblest gift of Heaven.

THE POWER OF GOLD.

The saying is that gifts gain over even the gods; gold has greater power over men than ten thousand arguments.

THE EVILS OF LIFE MUST BE BORNE.

A mortal must bear calamities with meekness.

So Philippians (i. 23)—“For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ, which is far better. nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you.”

“THE EVIL THAT I WOULD NOT. THAT I DO.”

I know, indeed, the ills I am about to commit, but my inclination gets the better of me.

So Romans (vii. 14)—“For we know that the law is spiritual; but I am carnal, sold under sin.

THE BACHELOR.

I maintain that those entirely free from wedlock, and who claim no title to a father's name, surpass in happiness those who have families; those who are childless, not knowing whether children give delight or anguish, are relieved of much misery. But those who have a sweet blooming offspring of children in their house, I see worn out with care the whole time; first of all, how they shall bring them up honorably, and how they shall leave what may sustain them; and besides, they know not whether they are toiling for good or bad children. But one ill to mortals, the worst of all, I now shall mention. For let us suppose that they have-got together a sufficient fortune, and that their children have reached manhood, behaving honorably, yet if this should happen, that death, bearing away their sons, vanishes with them to the shades of darkness. I ask, why do the gods heap on mor-

tals this grief in addition, the most bitter of all, to drop the tears on the lost son's untimely bier?

NO MORTAL MAN IS HAPPY.

But what belongs to mortals I do not now for the first time deem to be a mere shadow, nor would I fear to say that those who boast most of their wisdom and acquired knowledge, stray widest in the paths of folly. No mortal is happy; if the tide of wealth flow in upon him, one may be more fortunate than another, more happy he cannot be.

THE RESTLESSNESS OF THE LOVE-SICK.

Alas! the evils of mortals and their hateful diseases! What shall I do for thee? what not? Here is the bright light of day, here the clear air; and now thy couch on which thou liest sick is out of the house; for every word thou spokest was to bring thee hither; but soon thou wilt be in a hurry to return back to thy chamber; thou art soon changed, and rejoice in nothing; nothing present pleases, thou reckonest what is not present as more agreeable. It is better to be sick than to tend the sick: the one is a simple ill, but with the other is joined both pain of mind and toil of body. The whole life of men is full of pain and trouble, knows no rest. But whatever else there is more precious than life, darkness hangs round it, concealing it in clouds; hence we appear to dote on this present state, because it gilds the earth, for we know nothing of our future life, and cannot discover aught of the realms below; but all is wrapped in perplexing fables.

A plague on the whimsies of sickly folk:

What am I to do? what not?

Why, here's the fair sky,
 And here you lie,
 With your couch in a sunny spot.
 For this you were puling, whenever you spoke,
 Craving to lie outside,
 And now you'll be sure not to bide;
 You won't be here for an hour—
 You'll want to be back to your bower;
 Longing and never enjoying,
 Shifting from yea to nay;
 For all that you taste is cloying,
 And sweet is the far away.
 'Tis bad to be sick, but worse
 To have to sit by and nurse;
 For that is single, but this is double,—
 The mind in pain, and the hands in trouble.
 The life men live is a weary coil;
 There is no rest from woe and toil;
 And if there's aught, elsewhere, more dear
 Than drawing breath as we do here,
 That darkness holds
 In black inextricable folds.
 Love-sick it seems are we
 Of this, whate'er it be,
 That gleams upon the earth,
 Because that second birth,
 That other life, no man hath tried;
 What lies below
 No god will show,
 And we, because the truth's denied,
 Drift upon idle fables to and fro.
 —From THACKERAY'S "Anthologia Græc., Fr. 9."

SICKNESS OF THE HEART.

The cares of life, they say, if carried too far,
 bring more of pain than pleasure, and war against
 the health. Thus I praise less what is in extreme

than the sentiment of "Nothing in excess," and the wise will agree with me.

PURE HANDS BUT IMPURE THOUGHTS.

My hands are clean, but my heart has somewhat of impurity.

So Romans (xiii. 9)—"Thou shalt not covet."

WE KNOW THE GOOD BUT DO IT NOT.

What is good we understand and know, but practise not, some from sloth, and others preferring some other pleasure to what is right. For there are many pleasures in life—lengthened hours of frivolous conversation, indolence, a pleasing ill, and shame; but there are two, the one indeed not base, but the other, the weight that pulls down houses; but if the occasion in which each is used were clear, the two things would not have the same letters.

THE INFLUENCE OF HIGH RANK.

For when base deeds appear right to those of highest rank, all below them esteem them as objects of honest imitation.

A PARENT'S MISDEEDS.

For it enslaves a man, though he be valiant hearted, when he is conscious of a mother's or a father's misdeeds. This alone, an honest and good name, to whomsoever it belongs, possesses a worth excelling life; it is time, when it so chances, that shows the bad, as a mirror reflects a virgin's fair face; never among such may I be seen.

PRIDE.

For this is nothing else than pride to wish to be superior, to be gods.

So Proverbs (xvi. 3)—“Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord.”

FLATTERY.

It is this that ruins many a well-built city and houses—this glozing speech. We want not words that charm the ear, but what excites to virtuous deeds.

DECEIT RECOMMENDED.

My tongue indeed hath sworn, but not my mind.

WOMAN.

By this, too, it is evident that woman is a great evil; for the father, who begot and brought her up, gives her a dowry and sends her away, to be rid of the evil. But the husband, on the other hand, when he has received the bane into his house, rejoices, and puts splendid ornaments on the vile image, tricking her out with robes, unhappy man! exhausting all the riches of his house upon her. But he makes a virtue of necessity, for, having allied himself to noble kinsmen, he retains with seeming joy his uneasy bed, or, if he has received a good bride, but worthless parents-in-law, he forgets the evil in consideration of the good. Happier is he who leads to his house a plain, gentle-hearted, simple wife. I hate the knowing dame; may there not be in my house one more wise than woman ought to be. For Venus with ease engenders wiles in these knowing dames; but a woman of simple capacity, by reason of her small understanding, is removed from folly.

WE JUDGE BY THE EVENT.

If I had been successful, I would have assuredly been ranked among the wise; for our reputation for wisdom depends much on our success.

THE FOOL.

O men erring in many things ! why do ye teach ten thousand arts, contriving and inventing everything ? but one thing you know not, nor yet have searched out, to teach that man wisdom who is void of sense.

THE DEMAGOGUE.

For those who are worthless among the wise are best fitted to charm the rabble.

EXILE.

For a speedy death is best to the wretched ; but wandering an exile from thy fatherland, thou shalt drag out a life of bitterness ; for this is the reward for the impious.

THE RIGHTEOUS AND THE GUILTY.

For gods rejoice not when the pious die ; the wicked, however, with their children and houses, we utterly destroy.

THE GREAT.

For the sad stories of the great make a deep impression.

THE ENMITY OF RELATIONS IS DREADFUL.

How dreadful, mother, is the enmity of relations, and how difficult a reconciliation.

BEAR WITH PATIENCE THE CALAMITIES OF LIFE.

We ought to submit to the inflictions of the gods.

So 2 Corinthians (vi. 4)—“ But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience.”

RICH HAVINGS WIN RESPECT.

It is a proverb long ago sung, but which I shall nevertheless repeat, "Wealth is most honored among men, and brings to them the greatest power."

PRECIPITATE HASTE.

Precipitate haste leads to injustice, but slowly-matured counsels bring forth deeds of wisdom.

HOW A RECONCILIATION OUGHT TO BE BROUGHT ABOUT.

When a friend is angry with his friend, let him meet him face to face, and fix his eyes on his friend's eyes, remembering only the object for which he is come, and forgetting all former grievances.

IF ALL JUDGED ALIKE, THERE WOULD BE NO DISPUTES.

If the same thing were judged honorable alike by all, and also wise, no contest or debate would arise among men; but now nothing is the same or like except the names; each gives his own meaning to them.

AMBITION.

Why, my child, dost thou court ambition, the most baneful of deities? Do it not, she is an unjust goddess. For often hath she entered into houses and flourishing cities, and issued forth again, bringing destruction on those who welcomed her. Of such an one thou art madly enamored. My child, it is nobler to pay honor to equality, which ever knits friends to friends, states to states, and allies to allies; for equality is sanctioned both by nature and by human laws. Whereas the less

is always at enmity with the greater, and hence springs the day of hatred. For it was equality that established measures among men, and weights and numbers. The dark eye of night and the light of the sun equally walk their yearly round, and neither of them being inferior, envies the other. Thus the sun and the night equally serve mortals, and wilt thou not brook equality and give up his share to him? Then, where is justice? Why dost thou honor so extravagantly the royal state—a prosperous injustice—and think so highly of her? To be conspicuous?—a mere empty glory. Or wouldst thou labor to have thy house full of riches? And what is this abundance? 'tis nothing but a name, since what is sufficient is abundance to the wise. Man enjoys his stores, not as his own, but as the gifts of the gods, who, when they choose, again resume them.

So Proverbs (xxiii. 5)—“Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? for riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven.”

THE NECESSITY OF FATE.

For a mortal must endure the necessity of fate proceeding from the gods.

THE RICH AND THE POOR.

It is good for the prosperous to cast their eye on the poor, and for the poor to look upward to the rich with a feeling of rivalry, that the desire of wealth may spur on the one, and the high fortune of the other may fear a sad change.

THE BENEFICENCE OF THE DEITY.

With others, indeed, I have disputed the question: for some assert that the ills of life outweigh the good to man. But my opinion is the opposite,

I believe that blessings are more abundant; for, if it were not so, we should not enjoy the light of life. The Being who called us forth from foul and savage life I thank, enduing us with reason, and then giving us the tongue as the messenger of words, so as to distinguish speech; the growth of fruits he gave, and for that growth the heaven-descending rain, that it might nourish the fruits of the earth and sustain the stomach; besides, he invented coverings against the cold of winter, and to ward off the burning heat of the sun, and the sailing over the sea, that we might exchange with each other the fruits which each wants.

See St. Paul's speech at Lystra (Acts xiv. 17)—“He left not Himself without witness, in that He did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.” See also Psalm civ. throughout.

THE INNOCENT INVOLVED WITH THE GUILTY.

For the Deity, deeming fortune the same to all, is wont to involve with him that is guilty the man that is innocent and has done no evil.

THERE ARE THREE CLASSES IN EACH STATE.

There are three classes of citizens; some are rich, listless, and yet ever craving for more; others, having nothing, and short of the means of life, are clamorous, much addicted to envy, aiming their bitter shafts against the rich, and led away by the tongues of evil leaders. Betwixt these extremes there are those who save the state, guarding the laws which the state may appoint.

NO ONE HAPPY TO THE END OF LIFE.

For in regard to the affairs of mortals, there is nothing happy throughout.

THE DUTY OF A SON TO HIS PARENTS.

Unhappy the child who does not help his parents, a most honorable service; for he receives back from his children what he has bestowed on his parents.

THE DEMAGOGUE.

We have not there the inflated demagogue, who, puffing the people up with words, turns them as interest prompts him. For he that is pleasant, and winds himself into their hearts to-day, offends to-morrow; then, with fresh calumnies cloaking his former errors, he escapes from justice. And then how can a people rightly guide a city who do not examine minutely the reasons that are brought forward? For time gives wisdom superior to imprudent haste. But a poor laborer of the soil, even if he were not unschooled in knowledge, cannot, from his very employment, be able to look to the common weal. Surely ill fares it with the better ranks when those of low degree hold dignity. "wielding at will the fierce democracy," rising from base obscurity.

"THE LAND WHERE, GIRT WITH FRIENDS OR FOES,
A MAN MAY SPEAK THE THING HE WILL."

There is no greater evil to a state than a tyrant, when in the first and chiefest place the laws hold not one common tenor, but one man, lording it over the laws, keeps it to himself; here is no equality. Where the laws are written, the weak and powerful have equal justice, and the lower ranks, when wronged, can answer the higher in bold words; the weaker, with justice on its side triumphs over the great. This is to be free. Is there a man fraught with good counsel, useful to

the state? He speaks it, and becomes illustrious: else, if he chooses, he holds his peace. What can there be more just than this? And then, when the people are sovereigns of the land, it glories in its valiant youth; while a tyrant hates such a state of things, and slays the best men, who he thinks are wise, fearing for his power. How then, can a state become strong, when ruthless power cuts off each brave spirit, and mows down each opening floweret, like the crops in the vernal meadow?

DISCRETION IS VALOR.

A wise man's love streams first to his children, then to his parents and country, which he should desire to raise to glory and not to crush. Dangerous is a daring pilot and sailor in a ship; wise is he who knows his time to moor it in safety. To my mind discretion is valor.

Shakespeare makes Falstaff ("King Henry IV." part i. act v. scene 4) say—

"The better part of valor is discretion."

And "Othello" (act ii. scene 3)—

"Let's teach ourselves that honorable stop,
Not to out-sport discretion."⁹

WAR NOT WITH THE DEAD.

I deem it right to bury the dead, from no desire to injure the city or bring on man-slaying contests, but preserving the common law of Greece. What is there wrong in this? For suppose you have suffered from the Argives, they are now dead; ye have driven them away with credit to yourselves and disgrace to them, and thus justice has been done. Allow the dead to be entombed in the earth; for each part that forms the frame of man,

must return whence it came, the soul to the ethereal sky, the body to the earth. For we do not possess this body as our own save to dwell in during this breathing space of life, and then we must give it back to the earth that sustained it. Dost thou think to do injury to Argos only by not burying the dead? By no means; this is a question common to all Greece, if any deprive the dead of their right, keeping them unburied; for it would be a disgrace to the brave if such a law were allowed to hold good.

LIFE IS A STRUGGLE.

But, ye silly men, learn the state of man; our life is a struggle: some gain the prize early, some hereafter, some now; for fortune plays the wanton. By the wretched she is greatly honored, that she may favor him, while the prosperous hold her in high honor, dreading the veering gale.

COURAGE VAIN.

Courage profits men naught, if God denies His aid.

VANITY OF MEN.

Vain mortals! stretching the bow beyond what is fitting, and justly suffering many ills, ye yield not to the advice of friends, but learn only from circumstances.

THE BRAVE MAN.

For when a man is brought up honorably, he feels ashamed to act basely; every one trained to noble deeds blushes to be found recreant; valor may be taught, as we teach a child to speak, to hear those things which he knows not; such love

as the child learns he retains with fondness to old age—strong incitements to train your children well.

TO BE TWICE YOUNG.

Alas ! why is it not permitted to mortals twice to be young, and thence return once more to old age ? For in our domestic affairs, if aught be ill-conducted, we put it right by after thoughts, but we have not this power over life. If we could be twice young, twice old, when we made a mistake, having this twofold life, we could correct it.

MOURNING FOR THE DEATH OF A DAUGHTER.

Be it so. What must I, wretched, do ? Go home, and there see the sad desolation of my home, and loneliness of my life ? Or shall I go to the dwelling of this Capaneus ? Most pleasant, indeed, it was to me before, when my daughter was yet living, but she lives no longer ; then she used to caress my beard and stroke this head with her hand. Nothing is dearer to an aged sire than a daughter ; sons have spirits of higher pitch, but are less inclined to endearing fondness. Will you not speedily lead me to my house, and give me up to darkness, when I may perish, wasting away my aged frame with fastings ? What will it avail me to touch the bones of my child ? O age ! difficult to be contended with. how I hate thee when I have reached thee, and hate all who are anxious to lengthen out existence with food, drink, and spells, turning aside the stream of life so as not to die ! It is more fitting for thee, naught but a useless burden upon earth, to pass away in death, and make room for the young.

AFFLICTION FOR DEATH OF CHILDREN.

For what greater grief canst thou find out for mortals than to see their children dead ?

HOPE ALWAYS.

That is the noble man, who is full of confident hopes; the abject soul despairs.

THE GOOD.

Are not the good, though slow to speak, oft provoked to give vent to their feelings?

SEDITION.

For a city does not prosper that shakes with sedition and is rent by evil counsels.

FATE.

For whosoever strives against heaven-sent calamities, his striving is folly. What must be, no one will ever make so that it be not.

INCONSTANCY OF HUMAN THINGS.

But ye old men, brief is the space of life allotted to you; pass it as pleasantly as ye can, not grieving from morn till eve. Since time knows not how to preserve our hopes, but, attentive to its own concerns, flies away.

YOUTH AND AGE.

Youth is dear to me, but age ever lies upon my head a heavier burden than the rocks of *Ætna*, dimming mine eyelids with sober veil. I would not have the riches of *Asia's* throne, nor that my house should shine with gold, in preference to youth, which is fairest in wealth and fairest in poverty. Sad and funereal age I abhor. Hence may it perish in the billows, and never enter the houses and cities of men, but be borne on wings through the air. But if the gods had understood and been wise in the affairs of men, they would have bestowed a twofold youth, as an undoubted

mark of virtue, upon such as shared it; and after death they would have returned a second time to the light of the sun, whereas baseness would have had a single term of life, and in this way would the bad and good have been distinguished, in the same way as amidst the clouds the stars are a guide to the sailors. Whereas now there is no certain mark given by the gods to distinguish the good and bad, but time, as it revolves, is studious of wealth alone.

DESCRIPTION OF MADNESS.

Iris. The wife of Jove did not surely send thee hither, to show thy wisdom.

Madness. I swear by the sun that I am doing what I desire not to do. But if I must needs be subservient to Juno and thee, I must follow swiftly and with a rush, as dogs follow the huntsman. On I go; not the sea raging with billows, nor the rocking earthquake, nor the thunder's rage inflicting pangs, is so furious as I when I rush with racing speed against the breast of Hercules. And I shall break down these walls and desolate his house, having first caused him to slay his children; but he that kills them shall not know that they are his sons who fall beneath his hands, till he has respite from my madness. See even now he shakes his head, standing at the barriers, and rolls in silence his distorted gorgon eyes. And he has no command over his breathing; like a bull prepared for the onslaught, he bellows dreadfully, invoking the Furies from Tartarus. Quickly shall I rouse thee to the dance, and give forth music rife with terror. Away, Iris, to Olympus, raising thy noble foot; but we shall enter unseen the abode of Hercules.

INGRATITUDE.

I abhor the gratitude of friends that grows old, and those, too, who wish to share the prosperous gale, but forsake the bark in adverse storms.

GOD IS ALL-SUFFICIENT.

For God, if he be really God, wants nothing. These are but the miserable tales of poets.

THE VIRTUOUS.

For among the virtuous disgrace is considered before life.

So Revelation (ii. 10)—“Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.”

TWO TO ONE IS ODDS.

Weak the conflict of one hand.

WOMAN.

For silence and modesty are the best ornaments of a woman, and to remain quietly within the house.

So 1 Corinthians (xiv. 34)—“Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak.”

NO ONE HAPPY BEFORE HIS DEATH.

By his present fortune he proclaims aloud to all this truth, not to envy the man who seems prosperous, ere we see his death, as fortune is but for a day.

THE HIGH-BORN OUGHT TO BE TRUTHFUL.

In such noble people as you the mouth ought to be truthful.

HIGH AND HUMBLE LIFE.

I envy the man who has passed through life without danger, to the world, to fame unknown, not those raised to greatness.

THE WILY TONGUE.

The tongue cunning to excite envy is an evil.

THE WAVERER.

The wavering mind is a base possession, not to be trusted by friends.

THE CUNNING CANDIDATE FOR POWER.

Thou knowest when thou wast striving to gain the leadership of the Greeks against Troy—in appearance careless of the honor, but secretly desirous of it—how humble thou wast, shaking every one by the hand, and keeping open door to all who wished to enter; giving audience to all in turn, even if he wished it not, seeking by affability to buy popularity among the multitude. And then when thou wert successful, changing thy mode of acting, thou wast no longer the same to thy old friends, difficult of access, and seldom within doors. Ill does it become an honest man when prosperous to change his manners, but rather then to be staunch to his friends, when by his changed position he can serve them.

THE RULER OF A STATE.

I would not make any one ruler of a state or general of an army on account of his wealth: the leader should have wisdom: every man sage in counsel is a leader.

THE NOBLE AND IGNOBLE.

What advantages attend ignoble birth! Such persons are at liberty to weep and bemoan them-

selves, but to the noble this is denied. We have pride as the guide of our life, and are slaves to the people.

LOVE.

Blest are they who enjoy the nuptial couch of Aphrodite, the temperate and modest goddess, obtaining a calm from those maddening stings, when Love with golden locks bends both his bows of graces, one for a prosperous fate, the other for life's wild tumult. I deprecate, O fairest Venus, the latter; but mine be love's temperate grace, the holy flame of chaste desire; mine be mild Venus and not ungoverned passion.

THE POWERFUL.

To th' inferior ranks of life
The powerful and the wealthy are as gods.

A DAUGHTER.

It is good that a daughter leave her home, but yet it pains a father's heart when he delivers a child to another house, the object of his tender care.

A WIFE.

A wise man should have a useful and good wife in his house, or not marry at all.

A MOTHER.

Childbirth is painful, and yet a child is a matter of great endearment; 'tis common to the whole human race to toil on behalf of children.

LEAN NOT TO YOUR OWN UNDERSTANDING.

There is a time when it is pleasant not to build too much on our own wisdom; but then, again,

there is a time when it is useful to exert our judgment.

So Proverbs (iii 5)—“Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.”

TO TOUCH WITH THE TIP OF THE FINGER.

King Agamemnon will not touch thy daughter even with the tip of his finger, so as to lay hold of her garment.

Our Saviour (Luke xi. 46) says of the Pharisees, that they “will not touch with one of their fingers ” the burthens which they lay on others; and Cicero (pro Cœl. 12) says—“To touch, so to speak, with the finger-tips ”

EXCESS OF PRAISE.

The noble, if praised, hate in a certain degree those who praise them, if they praise too much.

THE DISTRESSED.

But, in fact, the good man, even though he be a stranger, has good reason to assist the distressed.

So Burns (“Winter Night”)—

“Affliction’s sons are brothers in distress;
A brother to relieve, how exquisite the bliss.”

SILENCE GIVES CONSENT.

E’ en thy silence and thy sighs
Confess it.

DUTY OF A WIFE.

When I was reconciled to thee and thy house, thou wilt thyself bear witness how irreproachable a wife I was, modest and adding to the splendor of thy house, so that both going in and going out thou wast blest. A wife like this is a rare prize; the worthless are not rare.

LIFE.

To enjoy the light of heaven is most sweet to mortals; things below are nothing; mad is he who prays for death; to live in misery is better than anything there is of good in death.

THE MULTITUDE.

The many are, indeed,
A dreadful ill.

THE GODS SAVE WHOM THEY LOVE.

The gods dispense to men what is unlooked for,
and those whom they love they save.

ENDURE DEATH WITH PATIENCE.

I esteem not him to be wise who, when he sees death near, tries to overcome its terrors with wailings, being without hope of safety, since he thus has two ills instead of one, and makes his folly known, dying none the less. But one must needs let fortune have its way.

WOMAN QUICK TO FORM DEVICES.

To form devices quick is woman's wit.

WOMEN A FAITHLESS RACE.

See how faithless is the female race! and ye are partners in what has been done.

TO FIGHT AGAINST THE GODS.

What benefit is there to fight against the powerful gods?

THE COWARD IS VALLANT IN THE DARK.

In darkness a runaway has mighty strength.

MEN HAVE DIFFERENT NATURES.

Nature grants to none to know all things; one gift belongs to one, another to another; to thee, indeed, to fight,—but to others, to give good counsel.

A GLORIOUS DEATH.

To die, if a man must die, is no doubt painful to him that dies: for how should it not be so? but if with glory to the living, it is a pride and renown for one's family.

A STATE IN ADVERSITY.

For when sad calamity befalls a state the gods are neglected, and there is no desire to honor them.

AFFLICTION.

Yet there is good reason to invoke the gods when we fall into affliction.

THE DEAD.

The tearless dead forgets his sorrows.

TEARS.

How sweet are tears to those who have fared ill, and strains of lamentation and the Muse, who tunes her notes to woe!

THE DEAD.

My child, to die is not the same as to behold the light of day; for the one is nothing, while in the other there are hopes.

TO FALL FROM HIGH FORTUNE.

Not to be born and to die I deem to be the same; but to die is far better than to live in misery, for he knows no grief who does not feel his misery.

But to fall from high fortune to abject wretchedness distracts the soul with the feeling of former happiness.

A WIFE.

With silence of the tongue and cheerfulness of look I entertained my husband. I knew in what things I ought to command my husband, and how to yield obedience in what it behooved me.

A SECOND MARRIAGE.

And yet they say that short time changes a woman's unwillingness to a new love. I abhor her who, discarding from her thoughts a former husband, loves another. For not even the mare, which has been separated from its fellow, will easily draw the yoke; and yet the race of beasts is without articulate voice, and fails in reason, being less excellent by nature.

GOD RULES WITH JUSTICE.

O Jove, who rulest this revolving globe, and hast thy throne above it, whoever thou art, hard to be known even by conjecture, whether the necessity of nature or the ruling mind, I adore thee; for, proceeding by a noiseless track, thou guidest with justice all mortal affairs.

So Psalms (cxlv. 17)—“The Lord is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all His works.”

LAMENT OF HECUBA OVER ASTYANAX.

O wretched one! how miserably have thy ancestral walls, the towers by Phœbus raised, rent the crisped ringlets from thy head, which thy mother fondly cherished with kisses, whence, amidst the crushed bones, murder grins out, to abstain from words more shocking! O hands! which once

bore the dear image of thy father's, but now lie with loosened joints. O thou dear mouth! which utteredst many a pleasantry, thou hast perished; thou hast deceived me, when, flinging thyself on my couch, thou wouldst exclaim, "O mother! I shall cut off these clustering locks for thee, and to thy tomb shall lead bands of compeers, hailing thee with dear address." Thou dost not bury me, but I, old, reft of my children, of my country, bury thee, dead in thy early bloom, a wretched corse. Alas! those fond embraces, those nursing cares, those lullabies, have all vanished. And on thy tomb what verse shall the bard inscribe?—"This boy who lies here the Greeks once slew, for they feared him,"—a verse recording the disgrace of Greece.

FORTUNE.

Foolish I deem him who, thinking that his state is blest, rejoices in security; for fortune, like a man distempered in his senses, leaps now this way, now that, and no man is always fortunate.

THE DEAD.

I deem that it is of little importance to the dead whether he obtain costly obsequies; this is the vain affectation of the living.

TO DIE IS BETTER.

But death, a better fate, has befallen me.
So Philippians (i. 21)—"To die is gain."

THE DEMAGOGUE.

A thankless race you are, who try to gain honor from the mob by oratory; would that you were not known to me, who reckon not of injuries done to

friends if your fine speech wins you favor with the people.

WEIGHT OF COUNSEL.

It is not the counsel but the speaker's worth that gives weight to his eloquence.

NOBILITY.

To be born of noble parents is a great and distinguishing badge among men, and the name of nobility among the illustrious advances from great to greater still.

THE GOOD AND THE BAD.

To all eternity the bad can never be but bad, the good but good; nor in misfortune does man degenerate from his nature, but he is always good. Is this difference from parents or from education? To be brought up well instils, indeed, the principles of honor; and he that is thus taught knows, by the law of honor, what is base.

THE SAILOR.

In a large army the rabble are riotous, and the sailors' insolence runs like wildfire; not to join in wickedness is a crime.

THE GODS.

The gods are strong, and powerful is their law; for by the law we judge that there are gods, and form our lives, having right and wrong strictly defined.

PERSUASION.

Wretch that I am, why should we poor mortals strive after sciences of all kinds as matter of duty, diving into them, while we slight, as nothing worth, Persuasion, the sole mistress o'er the minds

of men, refusing to pay money for that by which we might persuade and gain what we wish ?

THE EVENTS OF LIFE.

How strange the events of human life ! laws control even the Fates, changing the sternest foe to a kind friend, and making enemies of those who before were on good terms.

THE BOASTED LIBERTY OF MAN.

There is no man free ; for he is a slave either to wealth or fortune, or else the populace of the city or the laws prevent him from acting according to the dictates of his will.

THE WICKED.

For this is for the general good of all—individuals and states, that punishment should overtake the wicked, and that the virtuous should enjoy happiness.

WOMEN.

To be brief, if any one in past times has reviled women, if any one now does, or hereafter shall revile them, in one brief sentence I shall comprise the whole : it is a breed which neither sea nor earth produces the like ; he who is always with them knows them best.

FRIENDSHIP.

In adversity the friendship of the good shines most clearly ; prosperity never fails in friends.

MAN'S EVIL MANNERS.

Would that the Greeks had forgotten the evil fortune which I now endure, but preserved the good in memory as they preserve my bad.

Shakespeare ("Henry VIII.," act iv. sc. 4) says—

"Men's evil manners live in brass; their virtues
We write in water."

A RUDE HUSBAND.

When a husband treats a woman roughly, it is better to die.

NOTHING STRONGER THAN NECESSITY.

Not mine

This saying, but the sentence of the sage,
Nothing is stronger than necessity.

DIFFERENT FORTUNES TO DIFFERENT MEN.

My daughter, how God assigns to different men fortunes different and inscrutable! But well I ween He turns affairs upside down, bearing them hither and thither: one toils, another knows not toil, but ruin overwhelms him, having no firm hold on fortune.

PRUDENCE.

No one ever grew rich on hallowed flames by idly gazing: discernment and prudence are the best of prophets.

LIGHT LIES THE EARTH ON THE BRAVE.

For, if the gods be wise, they will lay the earth lightly on the grave of the brave, but cast the craven beneath a hard mound of earth.

THE UNRIGHTEOUS.

No one that is unrighteous has ever prospered, but hopes of safety never forsake the just.

"WHO HATH KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD?"

Whether it was a god, or not a god, or something between, who of mortals by searching to the end can find out?

THE LABORER.

It is pleasant for a laborer returning from a distance to find things in his house aright.

THE NOBLE TO BE JUDGED BY MANNERS AND BY DEEDS.

There is no outward mark to note the noble, for the inward qualities of man are never clearly to be distinguished. I have often seen a man of no worth spring from a noble sire, and worthy children arise from vile parents, meanness grovelling in the rich man's mind and generous feelings in the poor. How, then, shall we discern and judge aright? By wealth? we shall make use of a bad criterion. By poverty? poverty has this disadvantage: it prompts a man to evil deeds. Shall it be by arms? But who, by looking to the spear, could thereby discern the dauntless heart? It is best to leave these things to be decided as they may. For this man, neither great among the Argives nor puffed up by the honors of his house, being plebeian, has proved his nobility by nature. Will ye not, then, learn wisdom, ye who wander in the paths of vanity? Will ye not learn to judge the noble by manners and by deeds? For such men as these discharge their duties with honor to the state and to their house. Mere flesh without a spirit is nothing more than statues in the Forum. For the strong arm does not abide the shock of battle better than the weak: this depends on nature and an intrepid mind.

JUDGE NOT BY OUTWARD APPEARANCE.

They are noble in appearance, but this is mere outside; for many noble-born are base.

MARRY YOUR EQUAL.

And among all the Argives thou didst hear such words as these—"The man obeys the wife, and not the wife her husband." This is shameful for the woman, that the man should not rule the household; and I hate those children who are spoken of as sprung from the mother, not the father. For he who weds a wife of higher rank and nobler blood sinks into nothing, lost in her superior splendor.

UNJUST WEALTH.

Nature is immovable, not riches; she remains forever and uplifts her head: but wealth unjustly acquired, and in the possession of the base, is wont to flit from the house, having flourished for some short space.

A WOMAN.

When a wrong idea possesses a woman, much bitterness flows from her tongue.

WOMAN.

The woman who, in her husband's absence, seeks to set her beauty forth, mark her as a wanton; she would not adorn her person to appear abroad unless she was inclined to ill.

VICE HOLDS A MIRROR TO THE GOOD.

Evil deeds hold up an example and mirror to the good.

WED NOT A VICIOUS WOMAN.

Whoever, allured by riches or high rank, marries a vicious woman is a fool; for an humble yet modest partner is better in our house than a noble one.

WOMAN.

Fortune rules in nuptials; for some I see to be a source of joy to mortals, others turn out badly.

THE HAPPY.

Whoever is able to pass through life calmly, and labours not under affliction, we deem to be blest.

AN UNBRIDLED TONGUE.

He had an unbridled tongue, the worst of diseases.

NATURE.

O nature, how great an ill thou art among the bad, but in the virtuous a safeguard.

SLEEP.

O precious balm of sleep, thou that soothest disease, how pleasant thou camest to me in the time of need! O divine oblivion of my sufferings, how wise thou art, and a goddess to be invited by all in distress!

Shakespeare ("Henry IV.," part ii. act iii. sc. 1)—

"O sleep, O gentle sleep!
Nature's soft nurse, how have I frightened thee,
That thou no more wilt weigh my eyelids down,
And steep my senses in forgetfulness."

MAN THAT IS FORTUNATE IN HIS CHILDREN.

Happy the man who is blest in his children, and hath not in them experienced grievous calamities.

A HAPPY MARRIAGE.

Life is blest to those whose connubial state is well arranged; but to those to whom it falls not out well, their affairs are unfortunate at home and abroad,

A FRIEND IN NEED.

Friends should assist friends in misfortunes; when fortune smiles, what need of friends? For God himself sufficeth, being willing to assist.

AN EXCITED MOB.

When the excited populace is in full fury, it is as difficult to control them as it is to extinguish a rolling flame; but if we yield to their violence as it is spreading, watching our opportunity, they may perhaps exhaust their rage, and, as their fury abates, thou may then turn them as thou pleasest. Their passions vary, now melting to pity, now rough with rage, affording an excellent advantage to one who watches carefully his opportunity.

A FRIEND IN NEED.

In distress a friend comes like a calm to the tempest-tossed mariner.

SYMPATHY.

Since the man who melts with social sympathy, though not allied in blood, is more valuable as a friend than ten thousand kinsmen.

THE SMOOTH TONGUE.

After him rises up a man of licentious tongue, intemperate, an Argive, yet not an Argive, forced upon us, trusting to thoughtless tumult. and prompt to lead with empty words the populace to mischief. For the smooth tongue that charms to ill brings great evil on the city. Whereas those who give good advice with forethought, though not immediately, yet eventually are of use to the state; but the far-seeing ruler ought to look to this.

THE MAN OF INTEGRITY AND PRUDENCE.

But another rose altogether different, not made to please the eye, but of manly form, one who rarely joined the city circles, a yeoman, which class of men alone preserve the country, prudent, wishing his conduct to be in harmony with his words, passing a pure and blameless life.

THE WISE FRIEND.

There is no blessing like a prudent friend, neither riches nor the power of monarchs: popular applause is of little value in exchange for a generous friend.

LIFE IS SWEET.

- To every man, even though he be a slave, the light of heaven is sweet.

WOMEN.

For women are formed by nature to feel some consolation in present troubles, by having them always in their mouth and on their tongue.

WOMAN BROOKS NOT A RIVAL.

Woman is prone by nature to jealousy, and brooks not a rival in the nuptial bed.

THE HIGH-BORN.

For those who are puffed up with pride ill brook the speech of their inferiors though urged with reason.

A BAD WOMAN.

Strange that one of the gods should have given healing medicines against the venom of savage serpents, yet none have found a cure against a bad

woman, more noxious than the viper or fire itself; so pestilent an ill are we to men.

GLORY.

Glory, O glory! thou hast uplifted high in life countless mortals who were naught: those I deem to be happy who have acquired glory truthfully; but those who have it falsely I consider to have it not; it is the mere wantonness of fortune that has given it to them.

THE SEMBLANCE OF POWER.

Those who only wear the semblance of worth have splendid outsides, but within are found like other men, unless they gain some eminence for wealth; this, indeed, hath mighty power.

THE DAUGHTER OF A BAD MOTHER.

Before his nuptials, I warned my son not to form alliance with thee, nor receive within his house the foal of a bad mother, for such bring with them their mother's faults; wherefore remember this, ye wooers, make your brides daughters of a virtuous mother.

THE TONGUE.

From a small beginning the tongue excites mighty strife among men; but the prudent guard against contention with their friends.

SOCIAL INTERCOURSE.

Social intercourse is the teacher of all things to mortals.

OLD AGE.

The race of old men is by nature hasty and impatient of control, through choler.

THE PASSIONATE.

If he be passionate, he will meet with passion, and shall receive deeds in return for deeds.

So Matt. (v. 21)—“Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: but I say unto you, that whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment.”

A VOICE AND NOTHING MORE.

What thou sayest I bear unmoved; for thou hast a voice void of power, like a shadow: thou canst do naught but talk.

CALAMITIES SOONER OR LATER.

Calamities sent by the gods come to all mortals sooner or later.

So Proverbs (xvi. 33)—“The lot is cast into the lap; but the whole disposing thereof is of the Lord.”

FEMALE BUSYBODIES.

But never, never (for I shall repeat it more than once), should the wise allow females to frequent their house; they are instructors to evil deeds. One corrupts the wife to make gain by it; another, who has fallen from virtue, wishes to make her vile like herself; and many do this from mere wantonness; hence the homes of men are ruined. Against such let him guard well his gates with bolts and bars; for these visits of women from without do no good, but abundant ill.

FATES OF MEN.

Seest thou not what various fates the Divinity makes man to pass through, changing and turning them from day to day.

TIME.

Time will discover everything to posterity: it is a babbler, and speaks even when no question is put.

FATHERLAND.

What is more dear to a man than his fatherland?

DEATH.

The debt of nature must be paid, even by the man who remains at home, away from all dangers.

VIRTUOUS LIFE.

Virtuous and noble deeds are better than high descent.

THE TONGUE.

If thou wilt not restrain thy tongue, it will bring evil upon thee.

RICH AND POOR.

Do you think that a land can prosper where the whole government is in the hand of the poor, without any admixture of the rich? The rich and poor should not be separate; but there should be a mixture, that the country may prosper. For the rich supply what the poor have not; and what we rich men do not possess, we can obtain by employing the poor.

WICKED ACTIONS OF MEN.

Do you think that the evil deeds of men fly on wings to heaven, and are there registered in the books of Jove, and that he, examining each, inflicts punishment on men? If it were so, the whole expanse of heaven would not be sufficient to contain the sins of mankind, nor could Jove have

time to read and punish each. Yet Vengeance, if we only carefully watch, dwells always near us. O woman, the gods send this to take vengeance on those men whom they hate, for no bad man is beloved by them.

VENGEANCE OVERTAKES THE WICKED.

Whoever thinks that he can go on committing sin without the knowledge of the gods, acts foolishly; he will be overtaken, when Vengeance finds leisure, and will suffer for all his former misdeeds.

VENGEANCE SLOW OF FOOT.

Vengeance comes not openly, either upon you or any wicked man, but steals silently and imperceptibly, placing his foot on the bad.

FORTUNE ATTENDS ON THE WISE.

Experience has shown that whoever first uttered the proverb was right when he said "that Fortune is the constant attendant on the wise and prudent."

VARIOUS INCLINATIONS OF MEN.

Various are the inclinations of man: one desires to be considered noble; another cares nothing for high birth, but wishes to be possessed of much wealth. Others, long for eloquence to persuade their audience to anything, however audacious. Others, again, prefer gain to honor; so dissimilar are men. For my own part, I care for none of these, but pray for a good name and reputation.

A BAD BEGINNING BRINGS A BAD ENDING.

A bad ending follows a bad beginning.

DEATH THE FATE OF ALL.

All must die; it is wisdom to submit with patience to the common lot.

CHILDREN LIKE THEIR FATHER.

Son of Creon, how true is the observation, that noble children spring from noble fathers; and that the children of the bad are like in nature to their parents.

NEVER DESPAIR.

The wise should possess their lives in hope.

GOD DEPRIVES OF REASON HIM WHOM HE WISHES
TO DESTROY.

When God is contriving misfortunes for man,
He first deprives him of his reason.

PLEASANT TO REMEMBER PAST LABORS.

How pleasant it is for him who is saved to remember his danger.

A FATHER'S ADVICE TO HIS SON.

In the first place, thou must have a gentle disposition: pay respect to all, giving the rich not more than an equal portion: be not opinionative when one of two things must be determined: get not riches by unjust means, if thou wishest them to continue in thy family, for riches unjustly acquired quickly vanish; yet try to get them, for riches and high descent enable a man to marry well: in poverty there is dishonor, even though a man be wise, and also disgrace: get friends who are not willing to yield to thy wishes, and shut the bars of thy doors against the wicked, who are anxious to gratify thy desires: love the conversation of those who are older than thyself, and hate those of in-

temperate habits, only pleasant to joke with; the enjoyment of unholy pleasure is of short duration.

ENVY.

Who was the mother or father that produced ill-omened envy, such a great ill to mortals? Where does she dwell, and in what part of the body? Is she in our hands, or heart, or eyes? What a dreadful labor for physicians to remove this greatest of all diseases in men, whether by the knife, by potions, or drugs!

PEACE.

Peace, thou richest and most beautiful of the happy gods, the envy of all, why dost thou loiter? I fear lest old age overtake me with its ailments before I behold thy delightful produce, songs with the dance and garland-crowned revellings. Thou benignant goddess, visit my city, and drive off from my house bloody sedition and frantic contention, delighting in the sharp-pointed sword.

GOD HELPS THEM THAT HELP THEMSELVES.

Call in self-help, then ask the gods to aid,
For the gods aid the man who helps himself.

HERODOTUS.

BORN B.C. 484—WAS ALIVE B.C. 408.

HERODOTUS, the father of history, was a native of Halicarnassus, a town of Caria, in Asia Minor. Of his private history very little information, on which reliance can be put, has come down to us. He was the son of Lyxes and Dryo, being descended from a family not less distinguished for its wealth

and political influence than for its love of literature. His uncle, Panyasis, was highly esteemed as an epic poet. The tyranny of Lygdamis drove him from his native town, and though he assisted in delivering his country, the disputes among the citizens after their liberation were so little to his taste that he withdrew again, and settled at Thurii, in the south of Italy, where he spent the remainder of his life, and wrote, according to Pliny, his work in his old age. According to Lucian, Herodotus read his work to the assembled Greeks at Olympia, B.C. 456, with the great applause of the audience, in consequence of which the nine books of the work have been honored with the name of the Nine Muses. He also states that Thucydides, then about fifteen or sixteen years of age, was present at this recitation, and was moved to tears. To this work we are indebted for our knowledge of the origin and progress of the Persian monarchy; of that of the Medes and Assyrians.

SEEING BETTER THAN HEARING.

I am satisfied that we are less convinced by what we hear than by what we see.

ATTEND TO OUR OWN AFFAIRS.

Many are the precepts recorded by the sages for our instruction, but we ought to listen to none with more attention than that, "It becomes a man to give heed to those things only which regard himself."

LIFE IS NOTHING BUT MISERY.

Thus, Croesus, does our nature appear an uninterrupted series of misfortunes.

So Ecclesiastes (i. 14)—"I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and, behold, all is vanity and vexation of spirit."

THE RICH MAN AND THE POOR CONTRASTED.

The man of affluence is not, in fact, more happy than the possessor of a bare competency; unless, in addition to his wealth, the end of his life be fortunate. We often see misery dwelling in the midst of splendor, whilst real happiness is found in humbler stations.

THE HAPPY MAN.

The rich man, indeed, is better able to indulge his passions, and to bear up against any harm that may befall him. The poor man's condition prevents him from enjoying such advantages; but then, as a set-off, he may possess strength of body, freedom from disease, a mind relieved from many of the ills of life, is blessed in his children, and active in his limbs. If he shall, besides, end his life well, then, O Cræsus, this is the happy man, about whom thou art curiously inquiring. Call no man happy till thou knowest the end of his life; up till that moment he can only be called fortunate.

LOOK TO THE EVENT.

It is the part of wisdom to wait to see the final result of things; for God often tears up by the roots the prosperous, and overwhelms with misery those who have reached the highest pinnacle of worldly happiness.

HEAVY PUNISHMENTS FOR GREAT CRIMES.

The gods inflict heavy punishment on great crimes.

So Psalms (xlv. 18)—“Come, behold the works of the Lord what desolations He hath made in the earth. He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; He breaketh the bow. and cutteth the spear in sunder; He burneth the chariot in the fire. Be still, and know that I am God.”

ALL WORK AND NO PLAY MAKES JACK A DULL
BOY.

They who are skilled in archery bend their bow only when they are preparing to use it; when they do not require it, they allow it to remain unbent, for otherwise it would be unserviceable when the time for using it arrived. So it is with man. If he were to devote himself unceasingly to a dull round of business, without breaking the monotony by cheerful amusements, he would fall imperceptibly into idiocy, or be struck by paralysis. It is the conviction of this truth that leads to the proper division of my time.

CUSTOM.

Such is the force of custom; and Pindar seems to me to have spoken with peculiar propriety when he observed that custom was the universal sovereign.

UPS AND DOWNS OF LIFE.

It is no doubt pleasant to hear of the prosperity of a friend and ally; but, as I know the envious nature of Fortune, and how jealous she is of our success, thou must not be surprised that I feel some apprehensions respecting thee. In fact, if I could be allowed to choose for myself, and for those dear to me, I should prefer that the gale blew sometimes favorable and sometimes adverse. I would rather that my life was checkered with good and evil than that I should enjoy an uninterrupted course of good fortune. I do not remember of having ever heard of a man remarkable for a long run of good luck who did not in the end close his life with some extraordinary calamity. If, then, thou wilt attend to my advice, thou wilt provide the following remedy against the excess

of thy prosperity. Consider in thy own mind on what thou placest the highest value, and the loss of which thou wouldst most deplore; cast this from thee, so that there may be no possibility of its return. If thy good fortune still continue, thou wilt do well to repeat the remedy.

BETTER TO BE ENVIED THAN PITIED.

Thou hast learned by experience how much better it is to be envied than pitied.

POWER IS PRECARIOUS.

Power, which many so assiduously court, is in its nature precarious.

CHARACTER OF TYRANTS.

For insolence is the natural result of great prosperity, while envy and jealousy are innate qualities in the mind of man. When these two vices are combined, they lead to the most enormous crimes: some atrocities are committed from insolence, and others from envy. Princes ought to be superior to all such feelings; but, alas! we know that this is not the case. The noble and the worthiest are the object of their jealousy, merely because they feel that their lives are a reproach to them; with the most abandoned they rejoice to spend their time. Calumny they drink in with greedy ears. But what is the most paradoxical of all, if thou showest them merely respectful homage, they take umbrage because thou art not sufficiently humble; whereas, if thou bend the knee with the most submissive looks, thou art kicked away as a flatterer.

ENVY.

Envy is implanted by nature in man.

So Proverbs (xiv. 30)—“Envy is the rottenness of the bones.”

FORCE OF LITTLE AVAIL.

For where wisdom is required, force is of little avail.

POWERS OF MIND STRENGTHEN AND GROW WEAK WITH THE BODY.

For the powers of the mind gather strength with those of the body; and in the same way, as old age creeps on, they get weaker and weaker, till they are finally insensible to everything.

BENEFITS OF DISCUSSION.

Unless a variety of opinions are laid before us, we have no opportunity of selection, but are bound of necessity to adopt the particular view which may have been brought forward. The purity of gold cannot be ascertained by a single specimen; but when we have carefully compared it with others, we are able to fix upon the finest ore.

So Thomson ("Liberty," Part ii.)—

"Friendly free discussion calling forth
From the fair jewel Truth its latent ray.

DELIBERATION AND FORETHOUGHT.

For my own part, I have found from experience that the greatest good is to be got from forethought and deliberation; even if the result is not such as we expected, at all events we have the feeling that we have done all in our power to merit success, and therefore the blame must be attached to fortune alone. The man who is foolish and inconsiderate, even when fortune shines upon him, is not the less to be censured for his want of sense. Dost thou not see how the thunderbolts of heaven lay prostrate the mightiest animals, while they pass over the weak and insignificant? The most splen-

did palaces and the loftiest trees fall before these weapons of the gods. For God loves to humble the mighty. So also we often see a powerful army melt away before the more contemptible force. For when God in His wrath sends His terrors among them, they perish in a way that is little worthy of their former glory. The Supreme Being allows no one to be infinite in wisdom but Himself.

So Psalms (cxlvii. 5, 6)—“Great is our Lord, and of great power; His understanding is infinite. The Lord lifteth up the meek: He casteth the wicked down to the ground.” And Mark (x. 27)—“With God all things are possible.”

CALUMNY.

Calumny is a monstrous vice; for, where parties indulge in it, there are always two that are actively engaged in doing wrong, and one who is subject to injury. The calumniator inflicts wrong by slandering the absent; he who gives credit to the calumny, before he has investigated the truth, is equally implicated. The person traduced is doubly injured—first by him who propagates, and secondly by him who credits, the calumny.

DREAMS.

Dreams, in general, take their rise from those incidents which have most occupied the thoughts during the day.

DEATH IS THE REFUGE OF THE UNFORTUNATE.

Brief as this life is, there is no one in the multitude, nor yet in the whole universe, that has been so happy at all times as not repeatedly to have prayed for death rather than life. Heavy trials in worldly affairs, the pangs of disease, render the short span of life of too long duration. Thus

death, when life becomes a burden, is a delightful hiding-place for wearied man; and the Divinity, by giving us pleasures, and thereby inducing us to wish for length of days, may in reality be considered as doing us an injury.

CIRCUMSTANCES COMMAND MEN.

Remember that men are dependent on circumstances, and not circumstances on men.

GREAT RESULTS FROM GREAT DANGERS.

Great results usually arise from great dangers.

So Acts (xiv. 22)—“That we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.”

“WE KNOW IN PART.”

Can one who is mortal be infallible? I believe that he cannot.

So 1 Corinthians (xiii. 9)—“For we know in part and we prophesy in part.”

INACTIVITY CONDEMNED.

It is better by a noble boldness to run the risk of being subject to half of the evils which we anticipate, than to remain in cowardly listlessness for fear of what may happen.

So 1 Thessalonians (i. 6)—“Having received the Word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost.”

A WISE MAN RECEIVES A KINDNESS.

Wherefore it is not to be supposed that a wise man should refuse a kindness that is offered to him, but rather be anxious to embrace it.

So Luke (vi. 33)—“And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? for sinners also do even the same.”

ENVY.

One man envies the success in life of another, and hates him in secret; nor is he willing to give him good advice when he is consulted, except it be by some wonderful effort of good feeling, and there are, alas! few such men in the world. A real friend, on the other hand, exults in his friend's happiness, rejoices in all his joys, and is ready to afford him his best advice.

So James (iii. 16)—“Where envying is, there is confusion, and every evil work.”

PRUDENCE AND RASHNESS.

Those who are guided by reason are generally successful in their plans; those who are rash and precipitate seldom enjoy the favor of the gods.

So Ecclesiastes (v. 2)—“Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter anything before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth; therefore let thy words be few.”

KINGS HAVE LONG ARMS.

For the power of a king is superhuman, and his hand is very long.

THE WILL OF PROVIDENCE CANNOT BE RESISTED.

My friend, it is vain for man to contend with the will of Providence; though the words of the wise are seldom listened to. Many of the Persians think as I do, but, forced by necessity, they yield to what they find it impossible to avoid. This is one of the saddest evils to which mankind is subject, that the advice of the wise is little attended to.

So Hebrews (xii. 5)—“My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him.”

CHARACTER OF MEN DEPENDS ON THE NATURE
AND CLIMATE OF THE COUNTRY.

It is a law of Nature that faint-hearted men should be the fruit of luxurious countries, for we never find that the same soil produces delicacies and heroes.

HESIOD.

FLOURISHED PROBABLY ABOUT B.C. 850.

HESIOD, a celebrated poet, was a native of Ascra, in Bœotia, whither his father had emigrated from the Æolian Cuma, in Asia Minor. The early years of the poet were spent in the mountains of Bœotia, in the humble capacity of a shepherd; but his circumstances seem to have improved, as we find him engaged on the death of his father, in a law-suit with his brothers, respecting the property left by his father. The judges of Ascra gave judgment against him, and in consequence of this he left his native city, and retired to Orchomenos, where he spent the remainder of his life. The ancients attributed to Hesiod a variety of works, but few of them have come down to us. The "Works and Days" is considered the most valuable, not so much from its own intrinsic worth as for having suggested to Virgil the idea of the Georgics. Its style is plain and homely, without much poetical imagery or ornament; but it must be looked upon as the most ancient specimen of didactic poetry.

WISE KING.

The people all look up to him as he administers justice with impartial judgment; with wise words quickly he calms even the wildest tumult, for

kings are endued with wisdom that they may easily quell factious deeds when the people are misled by demagogues, soothing them with soft words; as he goes through the city all hail him as a god, with gentlest awe, and he stands conspicuous midst the assembled council.

THE BARD.

Blessed is he whom the Muses love! sweetly do his words flow from his lips. Is there one afflicted with fresh sorrow, pining away with deep grief? then if the minstrel, servant of the Muses, sings the glorious deeds of men of yore, the praise of the blessed gods who dwell in Olympus, quickly does he forget his sorrows, nor remembers aught of all his griefs; for the gifts of these goddesses swiftly turn his woes away.

THE DRONES.

As when bees in close-roofed hives feed the drones, partners in evil deeds, the former all day long, to the setting sun, their murmuring labors ply, filling the pure combs; while the drones, remaining within, reap the labors of others for their own maws.

SLEEP AND DEATH.

There dwell Sleep and Death, dread gods, the progeny of gloomy Night; the sun never looks upon them with its bright rays, neither when he mounts the vault of heaven nor when he descends; the former in silence passes over the earth and the wide expanse of sea, giving pleasure to mortals; of the other, iron is the heart, and his brazen breast is merciless; whomsoever of men he first seizes he holds, and is hostile even to the immortal gods.

FATE OF MAN DETERMINED BY GOD.

By whom mortal men are raised to fame or live obscurely, noble or ignoble, by the will of Jove; with ease he lifts or brings low, with ease he dims the brightest name and ennobles the meanest; with ease high-thundering Jove, who dwells on high, makes the crooked straight and unnerves the strong.

So 1 Samuel (ii 7, 8).—"The Lord maketh poor, and maketh rich: He bringeth low, and lifteth up. He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and He hath set the world upon them." And Psalms (cxiii. 7, 8).—"He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth the needy out of the dunghill; that He may set him with princes, even with the princes of His people." And Luke (i. 51-53).—"He hath showed strength with His arm: He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seats, and exalted them of low degree. He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich He hath sent empty away."

EMULATION IS GOOD.

Emulation is good for mankind.

THE ENVIOUS.

The potter envies the potter, the carpenter the carpenter, the poor is jealous of the poor, and the bard of the bard.

HALF BETTER THAN THE WHOLE.

Fools that they are, they know not how much the half is better than the whole, nor how great pleasure there is in wholesome herbs—the mallow and the asphodel.

GOD LAUGHS AT VAIN DESIGNS.

Thus he spoke; and the sire of men and gods out-laughed.

So Psalms (ii. 4)—“He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.” And Milton, “Paradise Lost” (Bk. v. 735)—

“Mighty Father, thou my foes
Justly hast in derision, and secure,
Laugh’st at their vain designs and tumults vain.”

THE WORLD FULL OF ILLS.

For the earth is full of woes, and also the sea; diseases go about noiselessly, bearing of themselves sorrows to mortals night and day, since Jove has taken from them the power of speech; so impossible is it to avoid the will of Jove.

EASY DEATH.

They died as if overcome with sleep.

GUARDIAN SPIRITS.

These are the ærial spirits of great Jove, beneficent, walking over the earth, guardians of mankind; they watch our actions, good and bad, passing everywhere over the earth, invisible to mortal eyes; such royal privilege they possess.

So Psalms (xc. 11)—“For He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.”

JUSTICE AND RIGHT PREVAIL.

For insolence is unsuited to wretched mortals, often even the high and powerful allow themselves to be carried away by arrogance, and, yielding to this feeling, subject themselves to misery and losses. On the other hand, the road leading to justice is the safer; justice at last gets the better

over wrong: this truth even the fool knows by experience.

THE UPRIGHT GOVERNOR.

Those who administer the laws with justice to strangers and natives, never transgressing what is right, by these the city flourishes in peace, and the people prosper. Peace is a good nursing-mother to the land, nor does far-seeing Jove send among them troublous war.

A SINNER.

Of a whole state suffers for the acts of a bad man, who breaks the laws of heaven and devises evil. On them Jove brings great calamity, both famine and pestilence, and the people perish.

THE WICKED BRING EVIL ON THEMSELVES.

What calamities does a man contriving evil for his neighbor bring upon himself! An evil design is worst for the contriver. The eye of Jove, that sees and knows all things, looks upon these things, if he wills it, nor is it concealed from him what kind of justice a state administers.

ROAD TO WICKEDNESS EASILY FOUND.

It is easy for thee to get associates in wickedness; the road is smooth, and the dwellers are all around thee. But the immortal gods have placed the sweat of the brow before virtue: long and steep is the path that leads to it, and rough at first; but when the summit is reached, then it is easy, however difficult it may have been. That man is by far the wisest who is able of himself to determine what is best both for the present moment and for the future: next, he is wise who yields to good advice; but he that is not wise him-

self, nor can hearken to wisdom, is a good-for-nothing man.

Milton, in his "Essay on Education," seems to have imitated this passage—"I shall detain you now no longer in the demonstration of what we should not do, but straight conduct you to a hill-side, where I will point you out the right path of a virtuous and noble education; laborious indeed at the first ascent, but also so smooth, so green, so full of goodly prospect and melodious sounds on every side, that the harp of Orpheus was not more charming."

THE SLUGGARD.

Both gods and men are indignant with him who lives a sluggard's life like to the stingless drones, who lazily consume the labors of the bees.

LABOR NO DISGRACE.

Work is no disgrace, but idleness is a disgrace.

SHAME.

It is not well for false shame to accompany the needy, shame that both injures greatly and aids mankind; false shame leads to poverty, but confidence to wealth; wealth should not be got by plunder: what is given by God is far better.

So Ecclesiasticus (iv. 21)—"For there is a shame that bringeth sin: and there is a shame which is glory and grace."

A BAD NEIGHBOR.

A bad neighbor is as great a misfortune as a good one is a blessing.

RETURN LOVE FOR LOVE.

Return love for love, and assist him who assists thee; give to him who gives to thee, and give not to him who gives not.

EVIL GAINS EQUAL TO A LOSS.

Do not make unjust gains; they are equal to a loss.

EVERY LITTLE ADDS TO THE HEAP.

For if thou addest little to little, and doest so often, soon it will become a great heap to him who gathers, and he will thus keep off keen hunger.

“ONE SOWETH AND ANOTHER REAPETH.”

They reap the labors of others for their own belly.

Callimachus, the poet of Alexandria (circ. 200 B.C.), has a line in his “Hymn to Ceres” (137)—

“And those who ploughed the field shall reap the corn.”

Thomas Fuller, an excellent quoter of and commentator on proverbs, better than any moralist we know, purveys an antidote to bitterness at seeing others reap what we ourselves have sown, in his “Holy State.” “The preacher of the Word,” he says, “is in some places like the planting of woods, where, though no profit is received for twenty years together, it comes afterwards. And grant that God honor-eth not *thee* to build His temple in *thy* parish, yet thou mayest with David provide metals and materials for Solomon thy successor to build it with.”

MONEY IS LIFE.

Money is life to us wretched mortals.

HOW TO CHOOSE A WIFE.

In the spring-time of life, neither much above nor below thirty, lead home thy wife. Marriage at this age is seasonable. Thy wife should be in her nineteenth year. Marry a virgin, that thou mayest teach her discreet manners, and be sure to marry thy neighbor's daughter, acting with all prudence, lest thou marry one who may prove a source of pleasure to thy neighbors. For there is

nothing better than a good wife, and nothing worse than a bad one, who is fond of gadding about. Such a one roasts her husband, stout-hearted though he may be, without a fire, and hands him over to a premature old age.

A SPARING TONGUE.

The best treasure among men is a frugal tongue, and that which moves measurably is hung with most grace.

So Proverbs (xv. 23)—“A word spoken in due season, how good is it!”

AN EVIL REPORT.

There is also an evil report; light, indeed, and easy to raise, but difficult to bear, and still more difficult to get rid of.

HIPPARCHUS.

FLOURISHED ABOUT B.C. 320.

HIPPARCHUS, an Athenian comic poet of the new comedy, was a contemporary of Diphilus and Menander.

SKILL.

By far the most valuable possession of all to all men for life is skill. Both war and the chances of fortune destroy other things, but skill is preserved.

HIPPONAX.

HIPPONAX of Ephesus flourished in the 6th century B.C. He is placed third, after Archilochus and Simonides, among the classic iambic poets of Greece.

THE TWO PLEASANTEST DAYS OF WOMEN.

The two pleasantest days of a woman are her marriage day and the day of her funeral.

HOMER.

HOMER, the greatest epic poet of Greece, lived at so remote a period that his existence is considered by some as a myth. At all events, he lived beyond what may be regarded the strictly historical epoch of Greek literature, the date of the period when he flourished varying no less than 500 years (from B.C. 1184-684). Many towns claimed to be his birthplace, but Smyrna seems to have established the best claim: he is said to have died at Ios, one of the Cyclades.

ANGER.

O goddess! sing of the deadly wrath of Achilles, son of Peleus, which brought unnumbered woes upon the Greeks, and hurled untimely many valiant heroes to the viewless shades.

So Proverbs (xxvii. 4)—“Wrath is cruel, and anger is outrageous.”

“THE COUNSEL OF THE LORD.”

And yet the will of Jove was being accomplished.

So Psalms (xxxiii. 11)—“The counsel of the Lord standeth forever, the thoughts of His heart to all generations.”

A PESTILENCE.

For Apollo, enraged at the king, sent throughout the host a deadly pestilence, and the people died.

So 2 Samuel (xxiv 15)—“So the Lord sent a pestilence upon Israel, from the morning even to the time appointed, and there died of the people, from Dan even to Beersheba, seventy thousand men.”

A DREAM.

Come now let us consult some prophet or priest, or some vision-seer, since even visions are from Jove.

So Numbers (xii 6.)—“And He said, Hear now my words: if there be a prophet among you, I the Lord will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream.”

TO KNOW THE PAST, THE PRESENT, AND FUTURE.

Who knew the present, the future, and the past.

In Isaiah (xli. 23) we have—“Shew the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that ye are gods.”

THE ANGER OF A KING.

For a king is the more powerful of the two when he is enraged with a man of low degree; for though he may veil his wrath for awhile, yet in his heart it still is nursed till the time arrive for his revenge.

A PROPHET OF ILL.

Thou prophet of ill, thou never speakest what is pleasing; ever dost thou take delight to augur ill.

So also in 1 Kings (xxii. 8.)—“And the King of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, There is yet one man, Micaiah the son of Imlah, by whom we may inquire of the Lord. but I hate him; for he doth not prophesy good concerning me, but evil.”

“NO PLEASURE IN THE DEATH OF THE WICKED.”

I wish rather my people's safety, than that they should perish.

So Ezekiel (xxxiii. 11)—“Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live;” and 2 Peter (iii. 9)—“The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance;” and 1 Timothy (ii. 4)—“Who will have all men to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”

“GLORY NOT IN THY WISDOM.”

If thou art stronger, some deity, I believe, has bestowed this gift on thee.

The idea is found in Jeremiah (ix. 23)—“Thus saith the Lord, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches;” and in 1 Corinthians (iv. 7)—“For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?”

THE GODS.

Those who revere the gods, the gods will bless.

So Proverbs (xv. 29)—“The Lord is far from the wicked: but He heareth the prayer of the righteous;” and John (ix. 31)—“Now we know that God heareth not sinners; but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth His will, him He heareth.”

THE SCEPTRE OF THE KING.

Yea, by this sceptre, which shall never again put forth leaves and branches, since first it left its parent trunk upon the mountain-side, nor will it blossom more, since all around, in very truth, has the axe lopped both leaf and bark; and now 'tis borne emblem of justice by the sons of the Greeks, those who watch over the laws received from Jove.

WORDS SWEETER THAN HONEY.

From whose tongue, also, flowed the stream of speech sweeter than honey.

So Psalms (cxix. 108)—“How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!”

THINE ENEMIES WILL REJOICE.

In very truth, what joy for Priam and the sons of Priam, and what exultation for the men of Troy, if they should hear of feuds between you!

So Psalms (lxxxix. 42)—“Thou hast set up the right hand of his adversaries; thou hast made all his enemies to rejoice;” and 2 Samuel (i. 20)—“Publish it not in the streets of Askelon; lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised triumph.”

“YE YOUNGER, SUBMIT YOURSELVES TO THE ELDER.”

But obey, for ye are both younger than I am.

So 1 Peter (v. 5)—“Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder.”

SUBMIT TO THE KING.

Do not, son of Peleus, feel inclined to fight with the monarch, since never to sceptred king has Jove given such glory as to Atrides.

So 1 Peter (ii. 13)—“Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake; whether it be to the king, as supreme.”

NOD OF JUPITER.

The son of Saturn spoke, and nodded with his dark eyebrows; thereupon the ambrosial locks streamed down from the head of the immortal king, and he caused the mighty Olympus to tremble to its base.

GOD NOT TO BE RESISTED.

For the Olympian king is difficult to be opposed.

So Romans (ix. 19)—“Thou wilt then say unto me, Why doth He yet find fault? For who hath resisted His will?”—and 1 Corinthians (x. 22)—“Do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? are we stronger than He?”

THE LEADER OUGHT TO BE AWAKE.

It is not right for a statesman to sleep to whom nations are intrusted, and the public weal.

“THE POOR MAN’S WISDOM IS DESPISED.”

If any other of the Greeks had related to us this vision, we should in all likelihood have deemed it false, and laughed to scorn the idle tale; but now he who is the noblest of the Greeks has seen it.

So Ecclesiastes (ix. 16)—“Then said I, Wisdom is better than strength; nevertheless the poor man’s wisdom is despised, and his words are not heard.”

BEES.

Even as go swarms of closely-thronging bees, always issuing in fresh numbers from the hollow rock: they fly in clusters to the vernal flowers; some have sped their flight in crowds here, others there.

THE POWER OF GOD.

Such, I suppose, now appears the sovereign will of Jove, who oft has destroyed, and again will pull down, lofty cities: for his power is omnipotent.

So Ezekiel (xxxv. 4)—“I will lay thy cities waste, and thou shalt be desolate; and thou shalt know that I am the Lord.”

THE WRATH OF A KING.

Great is the wrath of a king under the protection of Jove; his high office, too, is from Jove, and counselling Jove loves him.

So Proverbs (xvi. 14)—“The wrath of a king is as messengers of death: but a wise man will pacify it;” and (viii. 15)—“By me kings reign and princes decree justice;” and Daniel (ii. 21)—“And He changeth the times and the seasons: He removeth kings and setteth up kings: He giveth wisdom

unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding;" and Romans (xiii. 1)—"Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God."

THE MOB.

The government of the multitude is not good: let there be one lord, one sole monarch, to whom wise Saturn's son commits the sway and ministry of law, in token of sovereign power.

So Judges (ix. 12)—"Then said the trees unto the vine, Come thou and reign over us;" and 1 Samuel (viii. 5)—"Now make us a king to judge us like all the nations;" and Proverbs (xxviii. 2)—"For the transgression of a land many are the princes thereof; but by a man of understanding and knowledge the state thereof shall be prolonged;" and James (iii. 1)—"My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation."

CHARACTER OF A DEMAGOGUE.

But Thersites alone with unmeasured words, kept still clamoring among the throng, for he had store of them, to rate the chiefs; not over-seemly, controlled by no respect, but, with witty malice, uttering what might move the Greeks to laughter. He was, moreover, the ugliest man that came beneath the walls of Troy: bandy-legged, and lame in one foot; shoulders crooked, and drawn together toward his breast; his head pointed upwards, while thin woolly hair bestrewed it; he was specially hateful to Achilles and Ulysses, for he was ever reviling them.

"THE PRINCE THAT WANTETH UNDERSTANDING."

It is not proper for a ruler to bring evils on the sons of the Greeks.

So Proverbs (xxviii. 16)—"The prince that wanteth understanding is also a great oppressor."

“BE WISE, O YE KINGS!”

But, O king, be well-advised thyself, and yield to wholesome advice.

So Psalms (ii. 10)—“Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth.”

“WHATSOEVER THY HAND FINDETH TO DO.”

No longer let us be talking here, nor put off the work which God has trusted to our hands.

So Ecclesiastes (ix. 10)—“Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom in the grave, whither thou goest ”

FLOCKS OF BIRDS.

Just as a numerous flock of winged fowl—of geese, or cranes, or long-necked swans—in the Asian mead, beside the streams of the Cayster, fly about, making a loud flapping with their wings, then settle down with clamorous noise, while all the mead resounds.

INSECTS.

As the thickly-swarming flies which gather round some shepherd's pen in spring-tide, while the milk is frothing in the pails.

DIVERSITY OF TONGUES.

The widespread nations spoke a variety of languages.

So Genesis (xi. 9)—“Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the Lord did there confound the language of all the earth; ” and Acts (ii. 4)—“They began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”

A SON SLAIN FOR DISOBEDIENCE TO HIS FATHER.

The two sons of the Percosean Merops, who was skilled above all in prophetic lore, nor would give

permission to his sons to be present in the life-destroying war; but they refused to listen to him, for fate led them on to gloomy death.

So 1 Samuel (ii. 25)—“Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto the voice of their father, because the Lord would slay them.”

PROPHETIC LORE SAVES NOT A MAN.

But he did not ward off black death by his knowledge of future events.

So Isaiah (xlvii. 13)—“Let now the astrologers, the star-gazers, the monthly prognosticators, stand up and save thee from these things that shall come upon thee.”

THE THIEF IN THE NIGHT.

As when the south wind spreads a mist on the tops of the mountain, in no way a friend to the shepherd, but better to the thief than even the night.

So Job (xxiv. 14)—“The murderer rising with the light killeth the poor and needy, and in the night is as a thief;” and 1 Thessalonians (v. 2)—“For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.”

THE GIFTS OF GOD NOT TO BE DESPISED.

The glorious gifts of the gods are not to be despised which they may have bestowed on thee, for we cannot select them ourselves.

So Ecclesiastes (iii. 13)—“And also that every man should eat and drink and enjoy the fruit of all his labor; it is the gift of God;” and 1 Timothy (iv. 4)—“For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving.”

SWEAR NOT FALSELY.

Let no one violate what is ratified by oath by wanton violence.

So Leviticus (xix. 12)—“And ye shall not swear by my name falsely, neither shalt profane the name of thy God, I am the

Lord;" and Matthew (v. 33)—"Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths."

THE AGED.

For the spirits of the young are too quickly stirred; but in what things the old take a part, he looks before and after, that due provision be made for all interests.

So Ecclesiastes (xi. 10)—"Therefore remove sorrow from thy heart, and put away evil from thy flesh: for childhood and youth are vanity;" and Titus (ii. 6)—"Young men likewise exhort to be sober-minded."

A MAN OF FEW WORDS.

Few words, but in very clear and musical tones, since he was not a babbler nor a random talker, though young in years.

So Proverbs (x. 19)—"In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise."

THE SUN.

And thou, O sun! thou seest all things and hearest all things in thy daily course.

So Psalms (xix. 6)—"His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it; and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof."

YIELDING PACIFIETH GREAT OFFENCES.

But we shall give way to each other in these matters, I to thee and thou to me; and the other immortal gods will follow us.

So Ecclesiastes (x. 4)—"If the spirit of the ruler rise up against thee, leave not thy place; for yielding pacifieth great offences."

A METEOR.

Like to a bright meteor which the son of deep-designing Saturn sends, a portent to sailors or the

broad army of the people scattering fiery sparks around.

Shakespeare ("Henry VI," part i., act i., sc. 1) says—

"Hung be the heavens with black, yield day to night!
Comets, importing change of times and states,
Brandish your crystal tresses in the sky;
And with them scourge the bad revolting stars,
That have consented unto Henry's death."

"THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S."

Jove, who dispenses peace and war to men.

So 1 Samuel (xvii. 47)—"And all this assembly shall know that the Lord saveth not with sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord's. and he will give you into our hands;" and Proverbs (xxi. 31)—"The horse is prepared against the day of battle: but safety is of the Lord."

"GOD SHALL AVENGE."

For though Olympian Jove does not avenge at once, he will avenge, though it may be after many days, and that severely,—with their own lives, and the lives of their wives and children.

So Hahakkuk (i. 3)—"Why dost thou show me iniquity, and cause me to behold grievance? for spoiling and violence are before me: and there are that raise up strife and contention;" and Luke (xviii. 7)—"And shall not God avenge His own elect, which cry day and night unto Him, though He bear long with them? I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the son of man cometh, shall He find faith on the earth?"

THE LIAR.

For Jove shall not assist the liar.

So Proverbs (xix. 9)—"False witness shall not be unpunished; and he that speaketh lies shall perish."

"YEARS TEACH WISDOM."

But I shall still go forth with the chariots and give counsel and commands, for this is the privilege of the old, while the younger shall fight in the ranks.

So Job (xxxii. 7)—“I said, Days should speak, and multitude of years should teach wisdom.”

LYING.

Son of Atreus, what kind of words has escaped from thy lips?

So Colossians (iii. 9)—“Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds.”

THE ROAR OF THE SEA.

As when the ocean waves dash forward on the far-resounding shore, driven by the west wind, wave upon wave; first it curls with whitening crests; but anon it breaks upon the beach with thundering roar, and, recoiling, flings in great curves its head aloft, and tosses high the spray of the sea.

SILENT MARCH OF AN ARMY.

The rest in silence marched, nor couldst thou have said that all that moving host had voice in their breast: awe for their leaders wrought silence deep; while round all flashed the varied armor with which they were girt.

DISCORD.

Discord, restless without ceasing, sister and companion of man-slaying Mars, small at her birth, but afterwards with her head reaching heaven, while she stalks upon earth; then she rouses dire fury, rushing into the midst of the crowd, adding woe to mortals.

So Proverbs (xvii. 4)—“A wicked doer giveth heed to false lips; and a liar giveth ear to a naughty tongue;” and James (iii. 5)—“Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold how great a matter a little fire kindleth!”

MOUNTAIN TORRENT.

As when wintry torrents rushing down the mountains join together their furious waters from mighty springs within some deep ravine, while from afar the shepherd hears the roar on the far mountain's top.

AN UNSTABLE MAN.

As for Diomede, thou couldst not know on which side he was.

So James (i. 8)—“A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways.”

“LET US NOT FIGHT AGAINST GOD.”

Fight not against the other immortal gods.

So Acts (xxiii. 9)—“And there arose a great cry: and the scribes that were of the Pharisees' part arose, and strove, saying, We find no evil in this man; but if a spirit or an angel hath spoken to Him, let us not fight against God.”

THE WRATH OF GOD.

The wrath of God is difficult to be withstood.

So Psalms (ii. 12)—“Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and ye perish from the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in Him;” and (xc. 11)—“Who knoweth the power of thine anger? even according to thy fear so is thy wrath;” and Revelations (vi. 17)—“For the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?”

BLOOD OF THE GODS.

An immortal stream flowed from the god, ichor, such as flows from the blessed gods; for they do not feed on bread nor drink sparkling wine, therefore they are bloodless, and become immortal.

AFFLICTION AT THE DEATH OF A FATHER.

No children shall any longer, clinging to his knees, call him sire, returning safe from the war and fields of death.

CONTEND NOT WITH THE GODS.

Be advised, son of Tydeus; retire, and esteem not thyself a god, since not alike is the race of immortal gods and men, mere reptiles of the earth.

So Isaiah (xli. 3)—“Hearken unto me, O house of Jacob and all the remnant of the house of Israel, which are borne by me from the belly, which are carried from the womb;” and Acts (v. 39)—“But if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it, lest haply ye be found even to fight against God.”

THE HOURS.

Heaven’s gates spontaneous open, guarded by the Hours, to whom great heaven and Olympus is given in charge, either to roll aside or draw the veil of thick clouds.

STENTORIAN VOICE.

Likening herself to strong Stentor, endued with brazen lungs, whose shout surpassed the force of fifty tongues.

QUIT YOU LIKE MEN.

My friends, quit ye like men, and be firm in the battle.

So 1 Samuel (iv. 9)—“Be strong, and quit yourselves like men, O ye Philistines! that ye be not servants unto the Hebrews as they have been to you: quit yourselves like men, and fight;” and 1 Corinthians (xvi. 13)—“Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.”

RACE SUCCEEDS RACE LIKE LEAVES.

As is the race of leaves, such is man: the wind scatters some on the ground, others the wood budding puts forth, and the season of spring brings out; so also the race of men, one generation flourishes, another decays.

So Sirach (xiv. 18, 19); and Ecclesiastes (i. 4)—“One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh: but the earth abideth for ever.”

FIRST IN WORTH AS IN COMMAND.

He sent me to Troy, and enjoined me oft to stand the first in worth as in command, nor bring discredit on my father's race, who had always held the foremost rank in Ephyre and Lycia's wide domain.

So 1 Corinthians (xii. 31)—“But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet show I unto you a more excellent way;” and (xiv. 12)—“Even so ye, for as much as ye are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the Church.”

THE ADVANTAGE OF WINE.

Wine gives much strength to wearied man.

So 1 Timothy (v. 23)—“Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake, and thine often infirmities.”

WINE.

Mine honored mother, bring me not luscious wine, lest thou unnerve my limbs, and make me lose my wonted prowess and strength.

TO OFFER SACRIFICES WITH POLLUTED HANDS.

I fear to offer a libation of rosy wine with unwashen hands.

So Isaiah (i. 15)—“And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you; yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood;” and Psalms (xxvi. 6)—“I will wash mine hands in innocency: so will I compass thine altar, O Lord.”

MAN PROPOSES, GOD DISPOSES.

Victory changes oft her side.

AN EXAMPLE OF A LOVING WIFE.

Hector, thou art my father and honored mother,
and brother; thou, too, my blooming husband.

Lord Derby thus translates it:

“ But, Hector, thou to me art all in one,
Sire, mother, brethren; thou, my wedded love! ”

FRIGHTENED CHILD.

The babe clung crying to his nurse's breast,
scared at the sight of his father, startled by the
brazen helm and horse-hair plume, seeing it nod-
ding fearfully on the warrior's crest: but his affec-
tionate father and honored mother laughed fondly.

THE FATE OF ALL IS FIXED.

For no man can antedate my doom; though I
am aware that no one can escape his fate, neither
the coward nor the brave, as it has been deter-
mined at his birth.

So John (vii. 30)—“ Then they sought to take him: but no
man laid hands on Him, because His hour was not yet come.”

A LADY'S WORK.

But going to thy house, attend to thy household
cares, thy web and thy spindle, and assign thy
maidens their several tasks.

So Proverbs (xxxi. 19)—“ She layeth her hands to the spin-
dle, and her hands hold the distaff.”

MAN IN THE HANDS OF GOD.

But the decision of the victory is placed in the
hands of the immortal gods.

So Proverbs (xxi. 30)—“ There is no wisdom, nor under-
standing, nor counsel, against the Lord: ” and 1 Corinthians'
(xv. 57)—“ But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory,
through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

THE BRAVE MAN.

And think not to contend with a man mightier than thou.

So Ecclesiastes (vi. 10)—“That which hath been is named already, and it is known that it is man: neither may he contend with him that is mightier than he.”

NIGHT APPROACHETH.

Now the night is at hand; it is wise to obey the night.

So Judges (xix. 9)—“Behold, now the day draweth toward evening, I pray you tarry all night: behold, the day groweth to an end; lodge here, that thine heart may be merry; and to-morrow get you early on your way, that thou mayest go home;” and Luke (xxiv. 29)—“But they constrained Him, saying, Abide with us; for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And He went in to tarry with them.”

THE WISDOM OF THE GODS.

Father Jove, is there any of mortals on the wide-spread earth who will rival us in wisdom and understanding?

So Isaiah (xl. 13)—“Who hath directed the Spirit of the Lord, or being His counsellor, hath taught Him?”—and Romans (xi. 34)—“For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been His counsellor?”

GLOOMY TARTARUS.

Be assured that I shall seize and hurl him into gloomy Tartarus deep down, where is the lowest abyss beneath the earth, where are iron gates and brazen floors, as far below Hades as heaven is from the earth.

So 2 Peter (ii. 4)—“For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment.”

THE GOLDEN CHAIN.

Having suspended a golden chain from heaven, do you, gods and goddesses, all of you lay hold of

it: yet would you fail to drag the mighty and all-wise Jove from heaven to earth, strive as you may.

So Isaiah (xl. 15)—“Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold. He taketh up the isles as a very little thing.”

STRENGTH OF GOD IRRESISTIBLE.

Our father, son of Saturn, mightiest of kings, we all know well that thy strength is not to be resisted.

So Job (xli. 2)—“I know that Thou canst do everything, and that no thought can be withholden from Thee.”

“GOD WEIGHS ACTIONS.”

And then the father of heaven hung out his golden scales.

So 1 Samuel (ii. 3)—“By Him actions are weighed;” and Proverbs (xvi. 2)—“But the Lord weigheth the spirits;” and Isaiah (xl. 12)—“Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of His hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?”

THE IRRESISTIBLE POWER OF GOD.

No man can withstand the will of Jove, however powerful he be, for he is much mightier.

So Job (ix. 12)—“Behold, He taketh away, who can hinder Him? who will say unto Him, What doest Thou?”—and 1 Corinthians (i. 25)—“Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.”

THE FIXEDNESS OF FATE.

For such is the unalterable decree of fate; but I reckon not of thy wrath, nor should I care even though thou wert thrust beneath the lowest depths of earth and sea, where Jäpetus and Saturn dwell, uncheered by rays of sun and fanned by no cool

breeze, encompassed by the profound abyss of Tartarus,—not even, I say, though thou wert there consigned to banishment, do I care, but hear thy reproaches unheeded, since nothing is more vile than thou.

LOVELY NIGHT.

As when in heaven the stars around the glittering moon beam loveliest amid the breathless air, and in clear outline appear every hill, sharp peak, and woody dell; deep upon deep the sky breaks open, and each star shines forth, while joy fills the shepherd's heart.

A KING DESTITUTE OF BRAVERY.

The son of deep-designing Saturn bestows his gifts in differing measure; he has granted to thee to be honored for thy royal command, but valor he has got granted thee, which is the noblest boon of heaven.

THE MAN DELIGHTING IN WAR.

That man is bound by no social, religious, and domestic tie who would court civil war with all its horrors.

THE MAN FAVORED BY GOD.

The man whom Jove loves is a match for many.

So Joshua (xxiii. 10)—“One man of you shall chase a thousand: for the Lord your God, He it is that fighteth for you, as he hath promised you;” and 2 Samuel (xviii. 3)—“But now thou art worth ten thousand of us.”

PLUTO.

Pluto, the merciless and inexorable, and therefore the most hatefull of all the gods to mortals.

NO REMEDY TO AN EVIL ONCE ENDURED.

There will be grief to thee thyself hereafter, nor will there be found a remedy to the evil that is done.

RESTRAIN THY PASSION.

Do thou restrain thy haughty spirit in thy breast, for better far is gentle courtesy.

So Proverbs (xvi. 32)—“He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty: and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.”

“LEAVE OFF FROM CONTENTION.”

And cease from angry strife.

So Proverbs (xvii. 14)—“The beginning of strife is as when one letteth out water; therefore leave off contention, before it be meddled with.”

THE HYPOCRITE.

For that man is detested by me as the gates of hell whose outward words conceal his inmost thoughts.

So Psalms (lv. 21)—“The words of his mouth were smother than butter, but war was in his heart: his words were softer than oil, yet were they drawn swords;” and (cxix. 163)—“I hate and abhor lying.”

THE BRAVE AND THE COWARD DIE ALIKE.

The same fate awaits him that fights or fights not. The coward and the brave are held in equal honor. The man who yields ignobly and he who exerts himself die alike.

So Ecclesiastes (ix. 2)—“All things come alike to all: there is one event to the righteous, and to the wicked; to the good, and to the clean, and to the unclean; to him that sacrificeth, and to him that sacrificeth not: as is the good, so is the sinner; and he that sweareth, as he that feareth an oath.”

Seneca (Ep. 91) says: “*Æquat omnes cinis; impares nascimur, pares morimur.*” “The dust levels all; we are born in unequal conditions, but die equal.”

WHAT ADVANTAGE HAVE I BY EXPOSING MYSELF
TO DANGER.

There is no profit to me after all my labors, though I am always setting my life at stake.

So Job (xxxv. 3)—“For thou saidst, What advantage will it be unto thee? and, What profit shall I have if I be cleansed from my sin?”—and Psalms (lxxiii. 13)—“Verily I have cleansed my heart in vain, and washed my hands in innocency:” and Ecclesiastes (vi. 8)—“For what hath the wise more than the fool?”

A WIFE.

Every wise and sensible man loves the wife of his choice; so I too loved her in my heart's core, slave though she was, taken by my spear.

So Colossians (iii. 19)—“Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.”

LIFE NOT TO BE BOUGHT.

Life is not to be weighed against all the treasures which they say Troy, that well-inhabited city, possessed formerly in peaceful times, ere the sons of the Greeks came, nor yet by all that is contained within the stone-built temple of the archer Apollo in rocky Pytho. For oxen and goodly sheep may be provided by successful forays, tripods and chestnut mares; but the soul of man can never more be recalled when the spark of life has passed his lips.

So Job (ii. 4)—“Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life;” and Matthew (xvi. 26)—“For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”—and Job (xiv. 12)—“So man lieth down, and riseth not: till the heavens be no more, they shall not awake, nor be raised out of their sleep. If a man die, shall he live again: All the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come.”

“THEY SAY, AND DO NOT.”

To be a speaker of words, and also a doer of deeds.

So Matthew (vii. 21)—“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven;” and (xxiii 3)—“For they say, and do not:” and 2 Corinthians (x. 11)—“Let such an one think this, that such as we are in word by letters when we are absent, such will we be also indeed when we are present.

PRAYERS ARE DAUGHTERS OF HEAVEN.

But, Achilles, curb thy furious rage: thou shouldst not cherish an implacable heart, for the gods themselves, excelling in virtue, honor, and strength, may yet be mollified, for they may be soothed by incense, humble suit, libations, and sacrifices, when they may have transgressed and gone astray. For Prayers are the daughters of mighty Jove,—lame, indeed, of foot, looking askance,—who, coming after the Temptress, are heedful of their course. But the Temptress is bold, swift of foot, for she far outruns them, and gets before them over all the earth, bringing sad disaster on mankind. But Prayers behind her heal the wrongs she has done to him who bows in reverence to these daughters of Jove as they approach: such an one they greatly aid, and listen to his entreaties; but whosoever rejects, and boldly refuses their assistance, Prayers, approaching their father, Jupiter, beg that the Temptress may follow him, that he may suffer and pay a due penalty.

So Genesis (viii. 21)—“And Noah offered burnt-offerings on the altar: and the Lord smelled a sweet savor;” and 1 Kings (viii. 38, 39)—“What prayer and supplication soever be made by any man, or by all Thy people Israel, which shall know every man the plague of his own heart, and spread forth his

hands toward this house: then hear Thou in heaven Thy dwelling-place, and forgive, and do, and give to every man according to his ways, whose heart Thou knowest; (for Thou even Thou only, knowest the hearts of all the children of men)."

A FRIEND.

It is right that my friend should honor him who honors me.

PRUDENT COUNSEL.

Godlike Menelaus, both I and you have need of sagest counsels to guard and protect us.

So Proverbs (xx. 18)—"Every purpose is established by counsel; and with good advice make war;" and (xxiv. 6)—"For by wise counsel thou shalt make war: and in multitude of counsellors there is safety."

WATCH CAREFULLY.

Dear children, now guard carefully; let not sleep come upon you, lest we be a laughing-stock to our enemies.

So Nehemiah (vii. 3)—"Appoint watches . . . every one in his watch and every one to be over against his house;" and Jeremiah (li. 12)—"Make the watch strong, set up the watchmen;" and Mark (xiii. 37)—"And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch."

HOW GREAT DEEDS ARE DONE.

When two go together, the one may perceive before the other how an enterprise may be best accomplished; and even though a man by himself discover the better course, yet his judgment is slower, and his resolution less firm.

So Genesis (ii. 18)—"It is not good that the man should be alone;" and Ecclesiastes (iv. 9, 10)—"Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up."

THE ADVANTAGES OF PRUDENCE.

Should he attend us, we shall both return safe even from the midst of burning fire, since he is wonderfully wise.

So Psalms (lxvi. 12)—“We went through fire and through water; but Thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place.” and Isaiah (xlii. 2)—“When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burnt; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.”

VISITING THE INIQUITY OF THE FATHERS UPON
THE CHILDREN.

Now in truth you shall pay for the heavy sins of your father.

So Exodus (xx. 5)—“I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children;” and Ezekiel (xviii. 2)—“The fathers have eaten sour grapes and the children’s teeth are set on edge.”

GOD SHALL PROTECT THEE.

Jove withdrew Hector from darts, dust, slaughter, blood, and turmoil.

So Psalms (xci. 7)—“A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.”

“THE LORD SHALL DELIVER THEE INTO MY
HAND.”

Assuredly I shall end thee if I shall hereafter meet thee, at least if any of the gods assist me.

So 1 Samuel (xvii. 46)—“This day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand, and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee.”

THE COWARD AND THE BRAVE.

A worthless coward’s weapon has no point: that from my hand is not so, even if it slightly touch; it is sharp, and when it strikes it slays;

his widow's cheeks are disfigured with scars of grief, and his children orphans; but he, reddening the ground with blood, rots, while his funeral rites are paid by carrion birds, and not by women.

So Judges (viii. 21)—“ For as the man is, so is the strength.”

THE BRAVE MAN.

For I know that cowards fly from battle; but the warrior distinguished in fight must, above all, stand undaunted, wounded or wounding.

A WOUNDED STAG.

As spotted lynxes pursue in the mountains a wounded stag with bushy antlers, whom a hunter has wounded with an arrow from his bow; flying, it has escaped by its swiftness, while its blood ran warm and its limbs yet served. But when the swift arrow has drained its strength, the ravenous lynxes, tearing, devour it in the shady wood, till chance brings a furious lion; then the lynxes fly in terror, while the lion feeds on the prey.

AN INUNDATION.

As when an overflowing river descends to the plain, rushing from the mountains, swollen by the storms of heaven, it carries off many blighted oaks and many pines, throwing much mud into the ocean.

THE LION.

As a furious lion is driven from the cattle-fold by dogs and rustics, who, watching all night, balk him of his prey. Eager for food, he renews the attempt; but still in vain, for numerous darts are hurled from vigorous hands, and blazing torches, from which he retires, though maddened. In the morning he slinks off with saddened heart.

THE ASS.

As when a stubborn ass entering the corn-field overpowers the boys, on whose back many clubs are broken: going in, it crops the rich corn, while the boys ply their cudgels; but their strength is puny, yet they drive him out with ease when he is satisfied with food.

THE ADVICE OF A FRIEND.

The advice of a friend is good.

So Proverbs (xxvii 9)—“Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart: so doth the sweetness of a man’s friend by hearty counsel.”

“SHALL THE SWORD DEVOUR FOREVER?”

A slight breathing-time from war is pleasant.

So 2 Samuel (ii. 26)—“Shall the sword devour forever?”

“PHYSICIAN, HEAL THYSELF.”

I think that a physician, being wounded, also requires a leech’s aid.

So Luke (iv. 23)—“Physician, heal thyself.”

AGAINST THE WILL OF GOD.

It was done against the will of the immortal gods; wherefore it did not long endure.

So Acts (v. 38)—“And now I say unto you, Refrain from these men, and let them alone: for if this counsel or this work be of men it will come to naught.”

OAKS.

They stood as oaks raise their high heads on the mountain-side, which many a day have borne the wind and rain, firm rifted by their strong, far-extending roots.

LET US OBEY GOD.

Let us obey the will of mighty Jove, who rules over mortals and immortals.

So Acts (v. 29)—“We ought to obey God rather than men.”

THE BRAVE.

Let the best omen be our country's cause.

So 2 Samuel (x. 12)—“Be of good courage, and let us play the men for our people, and for the cities of our God : and the Lord do that which seemeth Him good.”

ALL ARE NECESSARY.

My friends, whoever of the Greeks is of noble spirit, of moderate or inferior strength, since all men are not with equal powers, here is work for all.

So 1 Corinthians (xii. 21, 22)—“And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee; nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary.”

THE SNOW-STORM.

As thick as the snow-flakes on a winter's day, when all-wise Jove has begun to snow, showing his power to mortals. Stilling the winds, he pours snow down on the ground, so that the tops of the lofty mountains, the sharp peaks, the lotus-plains, and man's productive labors are buried deep. It is scattered over the hoary sea, lakes, and shores; but the wave, as it approaches, controls it: everything else is wrapped up beneath, when the storm of Jove rages with fury.

THE FORCE OF UNION.

The force of powerful union conquers all.

GOD IS EASILY KNOWN.

'Tis easy to discern the outward signs of a god.

So Psalms (ix. 16)—“The Lord is known by the judgment which He executeth;” and (lxxvi. 1)—“In Judah is God known.”

THE INCLINATIONS OF THE GOOD.

A brave man's spirit its vigor soon regains.

So Proverbs (xxi. 11)—“When the scorner is punished, the simple is made wise;” and (xxiv. 16)—“For a just man falleth seven times and riseth up again.”

“TO WHOM MUCH IS GIVEN.”

All who are the best and bravest of the host should not desist from the battle: I might not blame them, if meaner men should shrink; but I am highly indignant with you.

So Matthew (xxv. 15)—“And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability;” and Luke (xii. 48)—“For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required.”

SLOTHFULNESS.

Dear friends, you will certainly sustain some heavier misfortune by this dastardly remissness: let each of you reflect on the shame of your conduct and feel keen remorse.

So Ecclesiastes (x. 18)—“By much slothfulness the building decayeth; and through idleness of the hands the house droppeth through.”

A HUGE BOULDER.

As some huge boulder detached from a rock, which the wintry torrent has hurled down the cliff's steep face, having undermined the firm hold of the massive rock by constant rains: with giant bounds it flies, and the wood crashes beneath it; Still it hurries on, until it reaches the level plain,

and then it no longer rolls, however much impelled.

UNITED STRENGTH.

The strength even of weak men when united avails much.

So Ecclesiastes (iv. 12)—“And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.”

A DAUGHTER WHO EXCELS ALL.

The father and revered mother loved her with deep affection; for she surpassed all of her own age in beauty, in skill, and mind: therefore the noblest man of wide Troy married her.

So Proverbs (xxx. 29)—“Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all.”

SATIETY OF EVERYTHING.

With everything men are sated: sleep, love, sweet singing, and the joyous dance—of all these man gets sooner tired than of war; the Trojans are insatiable in fight.

So Proverbs (xxv. 16)—“Hast thou found honey? eat so much as is sufficient for thee, lest thou be filled therewith, and vomit it.”

MEN HAVE DIFFERENT TALENTS.

But thou alone canst not engross all gifts of heaven: to one man God has granted the knowledge of what belongs to the affairs of war, to another the power of dancing, to another song and music; but in the breast of another loud-thundering Jove places the spirit of wisdom, of which many enjoy the fruit, for by him cities are preserved, and he himself specially feels the value of the precious gift.

So 1 Corinthians (xii. 4-6)—“Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of

administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all;" and (vii. 7)—"But every man hath his proper gift of God, one after this manner, and another after that."

ACCORDING TO THAT A MAN HATH.

Beyond his power the bravest cannot fight.

So 2 Corinthians (viii. 12)—"For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not."

AVOID EVILS.

For a man is not to be blamed if he flies from an impending evil, though by night; he will act more wisely who by flying escapes, than he who is overtaken by the threatened danger.

So Butler ("Hudibras," Part iii., c. 3, l. 243) says:

"For those that fly may fight again,
Which he can never do that's slain."

So Matthew (x. 23)—"But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another."

WHAT IS THY PETITION?

Tell me thy wish; my inclination urges me to grant it if my power may aught avail, and if it can be done.

So Esther (v. 6)—"And the king said unto Esther at the banquet of wine, What is thy petition? and it shall be granted thee: and what is thy request? even to the half of the kingdom it shall be performed."

THE CHARMS OF LOVE.

She said, and unloosed from her breast her zone embroidered with various colors, wrought with every charm to win the heart; there dwelt love, amorous desire, fond discourse, persuasion, which often steals away the senses even of wisest men.

So Proverbs (vii. 21)—“With her much fair specch she caused him to yield, with the flattering of her lips she forced him.”

SLEEP THE BROTHER OF DEATH.

There he met with Sleep, twin-born with Death.

So John (xi. 11-13)—“Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep. Then said his disciples, Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well. Howbeit Jesus spake of his death: but they thought that He had spoken of taking of rest in sleep.”

LOVE SEIZED HIM.

When he saw her, suddenly love overshadowed his mind.

So Genesis (iii. 6)—“And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof and did eat;” and (vi. 1)—“The sons of men saw the daughters of men that they were fair, and they took them wives of all which they chose.”

WINE MAKETH MERRY.

And Semele brought forth Bacchus, causing joy to mortals.

So Judges (ix. 13)—“Should I leave my wine, which cheereth God and man?”—and Psalms (civ. 15)—“And wine that maketh glad the heart of man;” and Ecclesiastes (x. 19)—“And wine maketh merry.”

DREADFUL TO FALL INTO THE HANDS OF THE LIVING GOD.

The lightning of mighty Jove is fearful.

So Hebrews (x. 31)—“It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”

THE POWER OF RECOLLECTION.

As when the mind of man wanders in thought over the many lands which he hath traversed, and

thinks "Here was I such a day, or here," thinking of his numerous adventures.

"THEY HAVE EARS, BUT HEAR NOT."

Madman, void of reason, thou art lost; surely thou hast ears in vain, thy mind and sense of reverence are utterly destroyed.

So Psalms (cxv. 6)—"They have ears, but they hear not;" and Matthew (xi. 15)—"He that hath ears to hear, let him hear."

"A FAITHFUL AMBASSADOR."

Tell all these things, and be not a false messenger.

So Proverbs (xiii. 17)—"A faithful messenger is health;" and Acts (xx. 20)—"And how I kept back nothing . . . but have shown you;" and (xx. 27)—"For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God."

ALL THINGS DIVIDED INTO THREE.

Threefold was our partition, and each enjoys his meed of honor.

So 1 John (v. 7)—"For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one."

THE NOBLE.

Noblest minds are easiest bent.

So Psalms (xlv. 19)—"They have no changes, therefore they fear not God;" and Ezekiel (xxxiii. 11)—"Turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die?"

HONOR THE HOARY HEAD.

Thou knowest that the Furies always watch to avenge the aged.

So Leviticus (xix. 32)—"Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honor the face of the old man."

THE STALL-FED HORSE.

As when a stall-fed horse, fattened on barley, having broken his halter, scours the plain, stamping with his feet, accustomed to bathe in the beautiful-flowing stream, exulting ; he tosses his head aloft, while his mane streams o'er his shoulders ; in conscious pride, his limbs bear him with ease to the accustomed pastures of the mares.

A CHILD PLAYING ON THE SEA-SHORE.

As when a child heaps up sand near the sea, making playthings with infantine folly ; again in wanton play he scatters it with hands and feet.

TO DIE FOR ONE'S COUNTRY.

A glorious death is his who dies fighting for his country, while his wife is safe, children and home and heritage unimpaired.

So 2 Samuel (x. 12)—“ Be of good courage, and let us play the men for our people, . . . and the Lord do that which seemeth Him good.”

THE COWARD.

For more of the brave are saved than die ; but to the coward there is neither glory nor safety.

STORM AT SEA.

As when a wave descends heavily on the swift ship, raised rapidly by the wind bursting from the clouds ; the deck is drenched with spray, while the fierce blast howls in the shrouds ; the affrighted sailors tremble, but little way removed from death.

So Jonah (i. 5)—“ Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man unto his god, and cast forth the wares that were in the ship into the sea, to lighten it of them : but Jonah was gone down into the sides of the ship.”

A GOOD SON FROM A WICKED FATHER.

A son distinguished for his many virtues was born from a wicked father.

So Ezekiel (xviii. 14, 17)—“Lo, if he beget a son, that seeth all his father’s sins which he hath done, and doeth not such like, . . . he shall not die for the iniquity of his father, he shall surely live.”

A SKILFUL RIDER.

As a man skilled in feats of horsemanship, having selected four from a troop of horses, drives swiftly from the plains to the great city, along the public road, while many men and women gaze in wonder at him: leaping always without missing, he springs from horse to horse as on they fly.

ON WHAT VICTORY DEPENDS.

There is safety in vigor of hand and not in giving way in the battle.

So Isaiah (ix. 15)—“For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood.”

ONE CALAMITY UPON ANOTHER.

Everywhere one calamity is heaped upon another.

So Job (i. 17, etc.)—“While he was yet speaking, there came also another,” etc.; and Isaiah (xxx. 1)—“That they may add sin to sin;” and Job (v. 19)—“He shall deliver thee in six troubles; yea, in seven there shall no evil touch thee.”

RICHES, BUT NO ENJOYMENT.

Father Jove has granted half his prayer, and half denied.

So Ecclesiastes (vi. 1)—“There is an evil which I have seen under the sun, and it is common among men: a man to whom God hath given riches, wealth, and honor, so that he wanteth nothing for his soul of all that he desireth, yet God giveth him not power to eat thereof, but a stranger eateth it: this is vanity, and it is an evil disease.”

A PILLAR IN HONOR OF THE DEAD.

A tomb and a pillar: the fitting tribute to the mighty dead.

So 2 Samuel (xviii. 18)—“Absalom had reared up for himself a pillar, for he had said, This shall be a memorial of my name.

DEEDS AND NOT WORDS.

Hands are meet for battle, but words for council; wherefore now we must use not words, but fight.

SLEEP AND DEATH.

Sleep and death twin-born.

So Matthew (ix. 24)—“The maid is not dead, but sleepeth.”

THE POWER OF JOVE.

But Jove’s will is always mightier than the will of man: who strikes panic into the bravest, and easily robs him of victory, and anon urges to battle.

So Ecclesiastes (ix. 11)—“I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favor to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all.”

“THIS NIGHT THY SOUL SHALL BE REQUIRED OF THEE.”

Thou shalt not long survive me, but death and irresistible doom now hang over thee.

So Luke (xii. 20)—“Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be which thou hast provided?”—and 2 Timothy (iv. 6)—“The time of my departure is at hand.”

WHY BOASTEST THOU THYSELF?

It ill beseems a man to vaunt arrogantly.

So Psalms (lii. 1)—“Why boastest thou thyself?”—and Romans (xi. 18)—“Boast not against the branches;” and 1

Corinthians (v. 6)—“Your glorying is not good;” and James (iv. 16)—“All such rejoicing is evil.”

FOOLS.

Even the fool is wise after the event.

So Proverbs (xxii. 3)—“A prudent man foreseeeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.”

THE LION.

As when a lion, bred in the mountains, in pride of strength, has carried off a heifer amid the pasturing herd—the choicest; he breaks her neck, first seizing her with strong teeth, then gorging on her entrails, laps the blood; though dogs and shepherds roar loudly from afar, yet none venture to come near, but pale fear seizes them.

“HE THAT HATH LABORED FOR THE WIND.”

Thou indeed so runnest, pursuing what cannot be reached.

So Ecclesiastes (v. 16)—“And what profit hath he that hath labored for the wind?”—and Galatians (ii. 2)—“Lest by any means I should run, or had run, in vain.”

TO FIGHT AGAINST A MAN HONORED BY GOD.

When a man strives, against the Divine will, with one beloved of heaven, a bitter doom comes quickly upon him.

So Exodus (xiv. 25)—“The Egyptians said, Let us flee from the face of Israel, for the Lord fighteth for them against the Egyptians;” and Isaiah (xli. 11-13)—“Behold, all they that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded: they shall be as nothing; and they that strive with thee shall perish. Thou shalt seek them, and shalt not find them, even them that contended with thee: they that war against thee shall be as nothing, and as a thing of naught. For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.”

OF EVILS THIS IS THE LEAST.

Of evils this would be the best to be chosen.

So 2 Samuel (xxiv. 14)—“And David said unto Gad, I am in a great strait; let us fall now into the hand of the Lord (for His mercies are great), and let me not fall into the hand of man.”

GOD OMNIPOTENT.

But the will of ægis-bearing Jove is uncontrolled, who confounds the strong, and easily robs him of victory, and anon excites to war.

“THE SWORD DEVoureth ONE AS WELL AS ANOTHER.”

Wherefore let each, rushing boldly onward, either perish or escape safe; for such is the chance of war.

So 2 Samuel (xi. 25)—“For the sword devoureth one as well as another.”

“HONOR THY PARENTS.”

Neither had he an opportunity of paying back their early care to his dear parents, for short was his term of life.

So Exodus (xx. 12)—“Honor thy father and thy mother;” and 1 Timothy (v. 4)—“Let them learn to show piety at home, and to requite their parents.”

KIND WORDS AND THREATS.

He addressed many honeyed words and many curses.

So Deuteronomy (xxx. 19)—“I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing.”

NOTHING MORE WRETCHED THAN MAN.

For there is naught of all that breathe and creep upon the earth more wretched than man.

So Job (xiv. 1)—“Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble;” and (xxv. 6)—“How much less man, that is a worm; and the son of man, which is a worm?”

MAN PROPOSES, GOD DISPOSES.

For I shall hurl the spear, but Jove directs the blow.

So James (iv. 15)—“Ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this and that;” and 1 Kings (xxii. 34)—“And a certain man drew a bow at a venture, and smote the King of Israel between the joints of the harness.”

SAD NEWS.

Assuredly thou shalt hear woful tidings, which would to Heaven, I had not to impart: Patroclus lies in death.

Pliny (Ep. iv. 11) says—“Herennius Senecio said, in defence of the absent Licinianus, some such thing as, ‘Patroclus is gone.’”

So 1 Kings (xiv. 6)—“I am sent to thee with heavy tidings.”

“A FOOL’S MOUTH.”

In sooth, my son, thou wilt be short-lived if thou talkest thus.

So Proverbs (xviii. 7)—“A fool’s mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul.”

STRIFE AND RAGE.

Would that strife were far removed from gods and men, and anger, which impels even the wisest to violence, which mounts in the breast of man like smoke, and is sweeter to the taste than honey.

So Romans (xiii. 13)—“Not in strife and envying;” and Philippians (ii. 3)—“Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory;” and Ecclesiastes (vii. 9)—“Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry; for anger resteth in the bosom of fools.”

DEATH WHEN GOD WILLS IT.

I shall then meet death when it is the will of Jove and the other gods.

So Job (xiv. 14)—“All the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come.”

DEATH.

I shall lie a senseless clod when I die; but now is the time to win glory.

So Ecclesiastes (ix. 10)—“Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.”

FATE OF MAN IN WAR.

The fortune of war is common to all, and oft slays the slayer.

So 2 Samuel (xi. 25)—“For the sword devoureth one as well as another.”

DESIGNS OF MAN CUT SHORT.

But Jove does not accomplish all that man designs.

ANGER.

Now indeed I here abjure my wrath, for it is not right that it should burn forever unappeased.

So Jeremiah (iii. 12)—“I will not keep mine anger forever;” and Ephesians (iv. 26)—“Let not the sun go down upon your wrath.”

A NOISY MEETING.

’Tis meet to listen in silence without interruption, for it is difficult for a man even skilled in speaking to deliver his sentiments amidst interruptions. In a great tumult who can hear or speak? Even the best of orators in injured in such a case.

So 1 Corinthians (xiv. 31-33)—“If anything be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace. For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted. And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.”

“WHY DO YOU STAND HERE ALL THE DAY IDLE?”

For it is not meet to stand here wasting our time, or idly loitering, for there is still a great work to be done.

So Matthew (xx. 6)—“Why stand ye here all the day idle?”

FOOD NECESSARY FOR THE WARRIOR.

For no man all day till set of sun may fight without food. Even though his spirit may prompt him to fight, yet his limbs by degrees sink under him; worn out by thirst and hunger, his knees shake as he advances. But the man satiated with wine and food all day maintains the combat with his enemy; his spirit remains unbroken, and his limbs are unwearied, till both armies quit the field of battle.

So Psalms (civ. 15)—“Bread which strengtheneth man's heart;” and 1 Samuel (xiv. 28)—“Cursed be the man that eateth any food this day. And the people were faint. Then said Jonathan, Mine eyes have been enlightened, because I tasted a little of this honey; how much more, if haply the people had eaten freely to-day, for had not there been now a much greater slaughter among the Philistines.”

NO SOONER SAID THAN DONE.

Then, soon as the word was uttered, the work was done.

So Genesis (i. 3)—“And God said, Let there be light: and there was light;” and Psalms (xxxiii. 9)—“For He spake, and it was done: He commanded, and it stood fast.”

THE PERJURED.

The Furies, ye who wreak vengeance beneath the earth on souls of men forsworn.

So Exodus (xx. 7)—“The Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain;” and Zechariah (v. 4)—“And it shall enter into the house of the thief and into the house of him that sweareth falsely by my name.”

GOD CAUSES GRIEFS TO MAN.

Father Jove, thou certainly bringest sad woes on men.

So Job (xxi. 17)—“God distributeth sorrows in His anger;” and Isaiah (xlv. 7)—“I form the light, and create darkness; I make peace, and create evil. I the Lord do all these things;” and Amos (iii. 6)—“Shall there be evil in a city, and the Lord hath not done it?”

WHAT IS FATED TO MAN.

The time shall come when he shall meet the doom which Fate has spun with its thread at his birth.

So Job (xxiii. 14)—“He performeth the thing that is appointed for me.”

THE GODS.

The gods are terrible to be seen.

So Exodus (xxxiii. 22)—“There shall no man see me and live:” and Job (xxxvii. 22)—“With God is terrible majesty.”

COURAGE.

It is Jove that at will gives and takes courage from men; for he is lord of all.

So 1 Corinthians (xii. 11)—“Dividing to every man severally as He will;” and Ephesians (iv. 2)—“Unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.”

A WAR OF WORDS.

But come, let us not talk to each other like babbling fools, standing in the midst of the battle-field. For we might both find terms of reproach enough to sink a hundred-oared galley; so voluble is the tongue of man, glibly giving words without end of all kinds; wide is the range of language; such words shalt thou hear as thou speakest; but why should we rail and fight like women, who, arrayed in fierce contest, jar in the streets with

wordy war, using opprobrious terms, some true, some false, for so their rage suggests.

So Job (xviii. 6)—“A fool’s lips enter into contention, and his mouth calleth for strokes;” and James (iii. 5, etc.)—“And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity; so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell: the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison;” and Matthew (vii. 2)—“With what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again;” and 2 Timothy (ii. 23)—“The servant of the Lord must not strive;” and Proverbs (xxx. 33)—“The forcing of wrath bringeth forth strife.”

EVEN THE STRONGEST CANNOT ACCOMPLISH ALL THINGS.

Nor will Achilles be able to make all his words good: some things he will fulfil, and in others he will fail.

So Psalms (xxi. 11)—“They imagined a mischievous device, which they are not able to perform.”

“YOUR FATHERS WHERE ARE THEY?”

But, my friend, thou, too, must die: why vainly wail? Patroclus, too, is dead, thy better far.

So Zechariah (i. 5)—“Your fathers where are they? and the prophets, do they live forever?”—and John (viii. 52)—“Art Thou greater than our father Abraham, which is dead? and the prophets are dead: whom makest Thou thyself?”

DEATH COMES AT ALL TIMES.

Seest thou not how fair and stalwart I am? I am the son of noble sire, and goddess-mother born; but death and stubborn fate will come upon thee and me at morn, or eve, or midday.

So Ecclesiastes (iii. 2)—“A time to die;” and Hebrews (ix. 27)—“It is appointed unto men once to die;” and Mark (xiii. 35)—“Watch ye therefore; for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cock-crowing, or in the morning.”

And Shakespeare ("Hamlet," act i. sc. 2)—

"All that lives must die,
Passing through nature to eternity."

THE GODS MORE POWERFUL THAN MEN.

The gods are more powerful than men.

So 1 Corinthians (i. 25)—"Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men."

LIFE OF MEN.

If indeed I should fight for the sake of wretched mortals, who, like leaves, sometimes flourish in beauty, and eat the fruits of earth, and then again wither on the ground.

So Isaiah (lxiv. 6)—"We all do fade as a leaf."

"GOD'S WAYS ARE PAST FINDING OUT."

Why, son of Peleus, pursuest thou me with swift feet, who am an immortal, while thou art a mortal? Hast thou not yet discovered my godhead?

So Psalms (lxxvii. 19)—"Thy footsteps are not known;" and Acts (ix. 4)—"Why persecutest thou me?"—and Romans (xi. 33)—"His ways are past finding out."

TO DIE IN YOUTH.

It is honorable for youth to die in battle, struck with the sharp spear; all things are becoming to him in death; but when dogs disfigure the hoary head and hoary beard of the old man lying in death, this is misery the last and worst to mortals.

FAMILIAR TALK.

This is not the time to hold light talk, like youth and maid under the shade of oak or rock, as youth and maid might hold.

THE BALANCE IN WHICH MAN'S FATE IS WEIGHED.

And then the father of gods hung out the golden scales, and put in each the lots of doom,—the one of Achilles, the other of horse-taming Hector,—and weighs with equal hands their destinies; down sank the scale, weighted with Hector's death, down to Pluto; and then even Apollo abandons him to his fate.

Milton ("Paradise Lost," iv. 999) says:—

"First He weighed
The pendulous round earth, with balanced air
In counterpoise; now ponders all events,
Battles and realms: in these He puts two weights,
The sequel each of parting and of fight;
The latter quick flew and kicked the beam."

THE WOLF AND THE LAMB.

As no firm concord can exist between lions and men, nor do wolves and lambs unite in harmony, but ceaseless enmity dwells between them.

So Isaiah (lxv. 25)—"The wolf and the lamb shall feed together;" and Luke (x. 3)—"I send you forth as lambs among wolves."

EVERY KIND OF VIRTUE.

Be mindful of every kind of virtue.

So 2 Peter (i. 5-7)—"And besides this, giving all diligence, add to your faith, virtue; and to virtue, knowledge; and to knowledge, temperance; and to temperance, patience; and to patience, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, charity."

THE SOUL.

Strange, but true, that there are souls and spectres in the abodes of Hades, but corporeal materials there are none at all.

So Ecclesiastes (ix. 5)—"For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not anything, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten."

GRIEF.

There is also a satiety of grief.

So 1 Samuel (xvi. 1)—“How long wilt thou mourn?”

NOT STRENGTH BUT SKILL OBTAINS THE PRIZE.

The woodman is superior by knowledge of his art rather than by strength; the pilot guides the swift ship in the dark-blue sea by skill, when it is tempest-tossed; the charioteer is superior to his rival by his skill.

So Ecclesiastes (ix. 16)—“Wisdom is better than strength;” and (x. 10)—“If the iron be blunt, and he do not whet the edge, then must he put to more strength; but wisdom is profitable to direct.”

BE CAUTIOUS.

Beware of striking thy foot against a stone, a source of joy to others, a shame to thyself; but, my friend, be cautious and be guarded.

So Psalms (xci. 12)—“Lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.”

JUDGE IMPARTIALLY.

Decide between both justly, and not with favor.

So Deuteronomy (i. 17)—“Ye shall not respect persons in judgment, but ye shall hear the small as well as the great;” and Proverbs (xviii. 5)—“It is not good to accept the person of the wicked, to overthrow the righteous in judgment.”

THE FOLLIES OF YOUTH.

Thou knowest the over-eager vehemence of youth; quick in temper, but weak in judgment.

So Job (xviii. 5)—“Thou makest me to possess the iniquities of my youth;” and Psalms (xxv. 7)—“Remember not the sins of my youth.”

THE FAILING OF OLD AGE.

For thou no more canst box or wrestle, or throw the javelin in sportive strife, or race with flying feet in running; for now the heavy hand of age rests upon thee.

So John (xxi. 18)—“When thou wast young, thou girdedest thyself, and walkedest whither thou wouldest, but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and others shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not.

MAN DOOMED TO LOSE FRIENDS.

For some may have lost a friend dearer than brother or son; but after having wept and lamented, he dismisses his care, for the Fates have bestowed a patient mind on man.

So Job (v. 7)—“Yet man is born unto trouble, as the sparks fly upward.”

GRIEF.

My son, why, weeping and grieving, dost thou wear away thy soul, forgetful both of food and sleep?

So 1 Samuel (i. 8)—“Why weepest thou? and why eatest thou not? and why is thy heart grieved?”—and Proverbs (xi. 13)—“By sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.”

LOSS OF CHILDREN.

Unhappy that I am, since I had the noblest children, and now I have none of them left.

So Genesis (xli. 36)—“Me have ye bereaved of my children: Joseph is not, and Simeon is not, and ye will take Benjamin away;” and Jeremiah (xxxi. 15)—“A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping, Rachel weeping for her children, refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not.”

TWO URNS CONTAINING GOOD AND EVIL.

For there is no advantage to be gained from woful lamentation: the gods have spun the thread

for wretched mortals that they should live in sorrow, while they themselves are free from cares. Two urns lie beside the door of Jove, one full of evil gifts, and one of good, from which thundering Jove, mingling, gives portions, now of the bad and now of the good. To whomsoever he gives of the bad, he makes him wretched indeed; grinding misery drives him an outcast over the earth; he wanders abroad, honored neither by gods nor men.

So Job (ii. 10)—“What! shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?”—and Psalms (lxxv. 8)—“In the hand of the Lord there is a cup; it is full of mixture;” and Isaiah (xlv. 7)—“I form the light, and create darkness; I make peace, and create evil.”

FOOLS PERISH BY THEIR OWN FOLLY.

Fools! they perished in their mad arrogance.

So 1 Chronicles (x. 13)—“So Saul died for his transgressions;” and Proverbs (xi. 5)—“The wicked shall fall by his own wickedness;” and (xiii. 6)—“Wickedness overthroweth the sinners;” and Hosea (xiii. 9)—“Thou hast destroyed thyself.”

MAN THE CAUSE OF HIS OWN ILLS.

Strange that men should blame the gods, laying all their woes on us, while it is they themselves that bring, by their own senseless acts, pangs which fate had never decreed.

So Lamentations (iii. 38)—“For he doth not afflict willingly, nor grieve the children of men. Wherefore doth a living man complain, a man for the punishment of his sins?” and Ezekiel (xviii. 24)—“In his trespass that he hath trespassed, and in his sin that he hath sinned, in them shall he die. Yet ye say, The way of the Lord is not equal. Hear now, O house of Israel, Is not my way equal? are not your ways unequal?”

IT IS A WISE SON WHO KNOWS HIS OWN FATHER.

My mother says in sooth that I am sprung from him, but I myself do not know, for no one can by himself by any means know his own father.

AFFLUENCE.

Would that I were the happy son of some blest man whom old age has overtaken in full enjoyment of his wealth.

REMEMBER THAT THOU ART NO LONGER A CHILD.

Thou shouldst not follow after childish things, since thou art no longer a child.

So 1 Corinthians (xiii. 11)—“When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things.”

FEW SONS RIVAL THEIR BRAVE SIRES.

For few sons are equal to their sires; most of them are less worthy; only a few are superior to their father.

So Ecclesiastes (ii. 18)—“Yea, I hated all my labor which I had taken under the sun; because I should leave it unto the man that shall be after me. And who knoweth whether he shall be a wise man or a fool?”

WALK NOT IN THE WAYS OF THE UNGODLY.

Fly the advice and ways of fools, since they are neither sensible nor just; they know not that death and gloomy fate are close by.

So Psalms (i. 1)—“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly;” and Ecclesiastes (ix. 12)—“For man also knoweth not his time: as the fishes that are taken in an evil net, and as the birds that are caught in the snare; so are the sons of men snared in an evil time, when it falleth suddenly upon them.”

ENJOY THE PRESENT.

Let no thoughts of outrage, let no rough words,
hanker in thy bosom, but eat and drink as of old.

THIS IS NOT WITHOUT THE WILL OF GOD.

Be of good cheer, my nurse, since this counsel
is of heaven.

So 2 Kings (xviii. 25)—“Am I now come up without the Lord against this place to destroy it?”—and Acts (xxvii. 22)—“And now I exhort you to be of good cheer; for there stood by me this night the angel of God.”

MODESTY.

It is a shame for a young man to question men
of riper years.

So Job (~~xxxii.~~ 6)—“I am young, and ye are very old; wherefore I was afraid, and durst not show you mine opinion.”

GOD WILL SUGGEST SOME THINGS.

Thou thyself wilt imagine some things in thine
own inmost breast, and a god will suggest others.

So Luke (xii. 12)—“For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.”

ALL REQUIRE THE AID OF GOD.

Pray, for all mankind require the assistance of
the gods.

So Acts (xvii. 25)—“As though God needed anything, seeing He giveth to all life and breath and all things; that they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after Him and find Him; for in Him we live, and move, and have our being;” and James (i 5)—“If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God;” and 1 Timothy (ii. 4)—“Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.”

THE MIND OF GOD IS UNCHANGEABLE.

For the mind of the ever-existing gods is not
lightly changed.

So Malachi (iii. 6)—“For I am the Lord; I change not;” and James (i. 17)—“With whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.”

GOD OMNIPOTENT.

God can easily, if He wills, save man even from the most remote part of space.

So Jeremiah (xxiii. 23)—“Am I a God at hand, and not a God afar off?”

DEATH.

But death is the common lot of all; nor are the gods able to ward it off even from their favorites when the destroying fate which is to lay him out at length has come upon him.

So Psalms (xlix. 10)—“For he seeth that wise men die, likewise the fool and the brutish person perish, and leave their wealth to others.”

A LITTLE STONE.

A rock, however small, may keep back a great wave.

So James (iii. 4)—“Behold also the ships, which, though they be so great, and are driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm, whithersoever the governor listeth.”

WANDER NOT FAR FROM YOUR HOME.

And thou, my friend, be not long at a distance from thy home.

So Proverbs (xxvii. 8)—“As a bird that wandereth from her nest; so is a man that wandereth from his place.”

NO ONE CAN CONTEND WITH JOVE.

Assuredly no one mortal-born would think to vie with Jove.

So Isaiah (xlv. 9)—“Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker.”

MOURNING FOR THE DEAD.

I do not deem it improper to shed tears over him who has died and met a gloomy fate: the rites of woe are all that the living can bestow, to shear the graceful curl and let fall the tender tear down the cheek.

So Ecclesiastes (xii. 5)—“Man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets.”

WISDOM OF SILENCE.

Thou hast spoken as much as a prudent man ought.

So Proverbs (x. 19); and Ecclesiastes (v. 2)—“Let thy words be few.”

A MIRTH-INSPIRING BOWL.

Forthwith Helen mixed a mirth-inspiring bowl from which they drank, assuager of sorrow and wrath, that makes man forgetful of all the ills of life. Whoever swallows the draught, when it has been mixed in the bowl, will not let fall a tear for one whole day adown his cheek, not even though his father and mother were lying in the throes of death, not even though a man should slay before his eyes a brother or a son; no, not even though his own eyes beheld it.

So Proverbs (xxxii. 6)—“Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts. Let him drink, and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more.”

REMEMBER THE COMMANDS OF GOD.

The gods have always wished men to be mindful of their precepts.

So Numbers (xv. 38)—“Let them make fringes, that he may look upon them, and remember all the commandments of the Lord.”

PUT A GUARD ON THY TONGUE.

And he would have escaped death, even though hated by Minerva, if he had not uttered arrogant words, and thus fallen into great crime.

So Proverbs (xii. 13)—“The wicked is snared by the transgression of his lips;” and (xiii. 3)—“He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life: but he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction;” and (xviii. 7)—“A fool’s mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul.”

ELYSIUM.

But the immortal gods shall send thee to the plains of Elysium, and the utmost bounds of earth, where dwells Rhadamanthus with auburn hair: there man’s whole existence is a state of ease: no snow is there, nor violent storms, nor rain; but Oceanus ever sends the gently-blowing western gales to refresh wearied men.

Tennyson (“Morte d’Arthur”) says—

“Where falls nor hail or rain or any snow,
Nor ever wind blows loudly.”

Swinbourne (“Atalanta in Calydon”) says—

“Lands undiscoverable in the unheard-of west,
Round which the strong stream of a sacred sea
Rolls without wind forever, and the sun
There shows not her white wings and windy feet,
Nor thunder, nor swift rain saith anything,
Nor the sun burns, but all things rest and thrive.”

TO SPEAK TO THE AIR.

It is base to speak vain words.

So Job (xv. 2)—“Should a wise man utter vain words, and fill his belly with the east wind?”—and (xvi. 3)—“Shall vain words have an end?”

A SYLVAN SCENE.

Around the cave trees grew in utmost beauty—
alders and poplars and fragrant-scented cypresses,

in which all birds of ample wing had nests—owls, hawks, and long-tongued water-fowl, that plunge into the sea-waves. The cave in front was spread with a green vine, clustering with ripe grapes; four springs ran with limpid water near to each other, flowing here and there; around, a meadowy ground was seen, covered with violets and green parsley: such a spot even a god might well admire and wander over with delight.

THE WILL OF GOD.

But assuredly it is by no means possible that any other god should dare to disobey the will of Jove, or render it null.

So Job (xxiii. 13)—“But He is in one mind, and who can turn Him;” and Proverbs (xix. 21)—“There are many devices in a man’s heart; nevertheless the counsel of the Lord, that shall stand.”

BEWARE OF THE ANGER OF GOD.

Beware of the wrath of Jove, lest at some future period he wreak his anger upon thee.

So Psalms (ii. 12)—“Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and ye perish from the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little ”

THE OMNISCIENCE OF GOD.

The gods, who dwell in the broad heaven, superior to me in knowledge and understanding.

So Psalms (xciv. 10)—“He that teacheth man knowledge, shall He not know?”—and 1 Corinthians (i. 25)—“Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.”

A MERCIFUL DISPOSITION.

For I have a kind disposition, nor am I iron-hearted, but pitiful.

So Psalms (xxxvii. 26)—“A good man is ever merciful;” and (cxii. 4)—“He is gracious and full of compassion; a good man sheweth a favor.”

DIANA.

Like the huntress Diana, whose delight is set on her arrows, in the mountains, either on lofty Taygetus or Erymanthus, delighting in boars and swift stags; with her the rural nymphs, daughters of ægis-bearing Jove, sport in playful games, while her mother, Latona, is glad at heart; in head and shoulders she overtops them all, but is easily distinguished, even where all are lovely. So also did the virgin excel all her maidens.

So Proverbs (xxx. 28)—“ Her children arise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her.”

DESCRIPTION OF THE HAPPY LIFE OF WOMAN.

May the gods grant to thee all thy heart's desire, a husband, and home, and firm union of soul with thy partner; for there is nothing more delightful than when husband and wife manage their affairs in close union, exciting envy in their foes and joy to all who wish them well; they themselves feel and enjoy their happy state.

So Ecclesiastes (ix. 9.)—“ Live joyfully with the wife whom thou lovest all the days of the life of thy vanity, which He hath given thee under the sun, all the days of thy vanity: for that is thy portion in this life, and in thy labor which thou takest under the sun.”

HAPPINESS.

God himself metes out happiness to men, to the good and bad, to each as to Him seems best.

So 1 Chronicles (xxix. 12)—“ Both riches and honor come of Thee, and Thou reignest over all; and in Thine hand is power and might; and in Thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all;” and Ecclesiastes (ix. 1)—“ No man moveth either love or hatred by all that is before them; all things are alike to all, there is one event to the righteous and to the wicked.”

WHAT WE GIVE TO THE POOR WE LEND TO GOD.

For strangers and poor are all sent by Jove; a gift, however little, is grateful to them.

So Proverbs (xix. 17)—“He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will He pay him again.”

RUGGED MARINERS.

For they do not endure foreigners, nor do they care for those who come from other lands. Trusting in their swift-sailing ships, they make their way over the mighty deep, since the Ruler of the sea has given it to them; their ships are swift as winged bird, or even thought.

So Job (ix. 26)—“My days are passed away as the swift ships;” and Psalms (xc. 9)—“We spend our years as a tale that is told.”

MANLY FIRMNESS.

Let not thy spirit fail thee, for the undaunted does best in every enterprise, even though he come from realms unknown.

So Deuteronomy (xxxi. 8)—“Fear not, neither be dismayed.”

HE DESTROYS AND IS DESTROYED.

He extirpated the godless race, but perished in their ruin.

So Proverbs (xxix. 2)—“But when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.”

A BELOVED QUEEN.

Thus she was honored from the heart, and is so both by dear children, by Alcinous and people, in whose eyes she is as it were a goddess, as she passes through the city; for she lacks nothing in sound sense and judgment, healing the strife among those whom she loves.

A GARDEN.

Outside the palace, near the door, a spacious garden lies, four acres in extent; round it a fence on all sides; tall trees spring in abundance, pears, pomegranates, apple-trees with fair fruit, luscious fig-trees and luxuriant olives; their fruit is always there, nor fails all the year round, winter and summer, but ever the western breeze causes some to bud and others to ripen; each dropping pear another pear supplies, on apples apples, grapes on grapes, figs on figs arise.

THE FATE OF MAN.

There shall he suffer whatever destiny and the dread Fates have spun for him with their thread of doom when his mother gave him birth.

HUNGER.

For there is nothing more importunate than a hungry stomach, which will not allow a man to forget it, whatever be his cares and sorrows.

So Ecclesiastes (vi. 7)—“All the labor of man is for his mouth, and yet the appetite is not filled;” and Proverbs (xvi. 26)—“He that laboreth, laboreth for himself; for his mouth craveth it of him.”

MEN A JEALOUS RACE.

For we, the race of men, are jealous in temper.

So Numbers (v. 14)—“If the spirit of jealousy come upon a man.”

DRINKING ACCORDING TO THE PLEASURE OF EACH.

And beside him a cup of wine to drink at his pleasure.

So Esther (i. 8)—“And the drinking was according to the law, that they should do according to every man's pleasure.”

GOD GIVES DIFFERENT TALENTS TO DIFFERENT
MEN.

God gives not noble gifts to all men, neither nature's charms, nor intellect, nor eloquence, for one man is inferior in outward form, while God makes up for this defect by eloquence, and thus he is admired by all; he speaks sweeter than honey, and with modesty steals away our souls, distinguished amidst the surrounding multitude; in public he appears a god; while another is fair as the ethereal beings in form, but "round his words grace sits not like a coronet."

So Psalms (xlv. 4)—"Grace is poured into thy lips;" and Song of Solomon (iv. 3)—"Thy speech is comely;" and 1 Corinthians (xii. 4)—"Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit;" and Matthew (xxv. 15)—"And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability."

WOMEN SHOULD REMAIN IN THEIR HOMES.

The goddesses remained each modestly at home.

So Titus (ii. 5)—"Discreet, chaste, keepers at home."

THE GODS GIVERS OF BLESSINGS.

The gods, givers of what is good.

So Matthew (vii. 11)—"God will give good things to them that ask Him;" and James (i. 17)—"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."

EVIL DEEDS.

Evil deeds prosper never.

So Proverbs (xi. 21)—"Though hand join in hand, the wicked shall not be unpunished;" and (xxix. 6)—"In the transgression of an evil man there is a snare."

SURETY FOR THE UNJUST.

He suffers who gives surety for the unjust.

So Proverbs (vi. 1)—“If thou be surety for thy friend, thou art snared with the words of thy mouth;” and (xi. 15)—“He that is surety for a stranger shall smart for it; and he that hateth suretyship is sure.”

THE POET.

Poets are worthy of honor and respect from all men upon the earth, because the Muse has taught them to sing lays, and loves the harmonious race.

A FEAST.

Let us all rejoice together, hosts and guests, since it is best so.

So Ecclesiastes (viii. 15)—“Then I commended mirth, because a man hath no better thing under the sun than to eat, and to drink, and to be merry;” and (x. 19)—“A feast is made for laughter.”

THE WILL OF THE LORD BE DONE.

Some things God will bring to pass, and others will be unaccomplished, according to His will.

So Acts (xxi. 14)—“The will of the Lord be done;” and James (iv. 15)—“If the Lord will, we shall do this or that.”

THE CALAMITY IS FROM GOD.

The gods have contrived this misfortune, and destined it for men, that it might be a theme of future song.

So 2 Kings (vi. 33)—“This evil is of the Lord;” and Amos (iii. 6)—“Shall there be evil in the city, and the Lord hath not done it?”

AN EQUAL DIVISION.

We have divided the many possessions which we received, so that no one has gone away deprived of his share.

So 1 Samuel (xxx. 24)—“As his part is that goeth down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff: they shall part alike.”

ALL GROW SPONTANEOUSLY.

They neither plant nor sow, but all things grow without ploughing or sowing, wheat, barley, and vines.

See 2 Kings (xix. 29)—“Ye shall eat this year things that grow of themselves.”

THOU CANST NOT ESCAPE THE DISEASE SENT BY GOD.

Thou canst by no means escape the disease sent by mighty Jove.

So 1 Samuel (iv. 8)—“Who shall deliver us out of the hand of these mighty Gods? these are the Gods that smote the Egyptians;” and 1 Peter (v. 6)—“Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God.”

DO NOT IRRITATE THE IRASCIBLE.

Unhappy man, why dost thou exasperate a savage wretch?

So Judges (xviii. 25)—“Let not thy voice be heard among us, lest angry fellows run upon thee, and thou lose thy life, with the lives of thy household.”

FOLLY.

For we perished by our own folly.

So Proverbs (i. 32)—“The turning away of the simple shall slay them;” and (xi. 3)—“The perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them;” and Hosea (xiii. 9)—“Thou hast destroyed thyself.”

THE ADVICE OF BAD COMPANIONS.

The bad counsel of my companions got the better of me.

So 2 Samuel (xvii. 14)—“And Absalom and all the men of Israel said, The counsel of Hushai the archite is better than the counsel of Ahithophel: for the Lord had appointed to defeat the good counsel of Ahithophel, to the intent that the Lord might bring evil upon Absalom;” and 1 Kings (xii. 18)—“And the king answered the people roughly, and forsook the old men’s counsel that they gave him: and spake to them after the counsel of the young men, saying, My father made your yoke heavy, I will add to your yoke: my father also chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.”

BAD COMPANIONS.

Bad companions have ruined me, and in addition to these, excessive sleep.

So Proverbs (xxiii. 20)—“Be not among the wine-bibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh; for the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty, and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.”

“LOVE NOT SLEEP.”

A man who does not sleep has a double reward.

So Proverbs (xx. 13)—“Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty: open thine eyes, and thou shalt be satisfied with bread.”

TEARS VAIN IN MISERY.

But tears in mortal miseries are vain.

A MIND NOT TO BE CHARMED.

In thy breast there is a mind that cannot be gained over by charming.

So Psalms (lviii. 5)—“Which will not hearken to the voice of charmers, charming never so wisely.”

WHY DOST THOU SIT LIKE A DUMB MAN.

Why, Ulysses, dost thou sit thus like a man bereft of speech, wasting away thy heart, and touching neither bread nor drink?

See 1 Samuel (i. 8); and 1 Kings (xxi. 5).—“Why is thy spirit so sad, that thou eatest no bread?”

A WILD SCAMP.

Elpenor was the youngest, neither famed in war nor for sense, who, away from his companions in the sacred hall of Circe, delighting in a cool recess, slept, overcome with wine.

WHO CAN SEE GOD ?

Who can see God with his eyes if He wills not, going hither and thither ?

So Isaiah (xlv. 15)—“ Verily Thou art a God that hidest Thyself; ” and John (i. 18)—“ No man hath seen God at any time; ” and 1 Timothy (vi. 16)—“ Whom no man hath seen, nor can see. ”

VISIONARY GHOSTS.

The shades of the dead came thronging forth from Erebus—virgins, youths, and old men who in their day had endured much, and tender little maidens overwhelmed with recent grief; many a man, too, wounded by the brazen spear, slain in the battlefield in mail, and all blood-stained, who flitted by in numbers beside the trench, here and there, with loud wailings; pale, I trembled with fear.

THE EVILS OF DRUNKENNESS.

I have been ruined by an evil fate and excess in wine.

So Proverbs (xxiii. 30)—“ Who hath woe ? who hath sorrow ? They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. ”

THE DEAD.

But this is the law of mortals when they die: their muscles hold no longer flesh and bones, but the strong force of flaming fire destroys these parts, after the spirit has first left the white bones,

while the soul wings its flight, vanishing like a dream.

So Luke (xxiv. 39)—“A spirit hath not flesh and bones.”

LYING VAGRANTS.

Ulysses, we do not suspect in looking at thee that thou art capable of guile and tricky frauds, though such the earth produces in numbers, vagrants, artful to deceive, so as to elude detection; to thee there is a grace of language, and gifts of mind; thou hast told thy story skilfully, like some bard the sad woes of all the Greeks and of thyself.

So Titus (i. 10)—“There are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers;” and 2 John (7)—“For many deceivers are entered into the world.”

A TIME FOR EVERYTHING.

A time for talking, however prolonged; a time, too, for sleep.

So Ecclesiastes (iii. 7)—“A time to keep silence, and a time to speak.”

WOMEN.

Than woman there is no fouler and viler fiend, when her mind is bent to ill.

TRUST NOT A SECRET TO A WOMAN.

Though thou lovest thy wife, tell not everything which thou knowest to her; but unfold some trifle, while thou concealest the rest.

So Micah (vii. 5)—“Keep the doors of thy mouth from her that lieth in thy bosom.”

THINK ALL WOMEN FALSE.

There is no trust to be placed in women.

RATHER BE A SLAVE ON EARTH THAN REIGN IN
HELL.

I would rather be a peasant and slave to some poor hind of slenderest means, than reign over the dead who have passed from life.

Milton ("Paradise Lost," i. 252) says the reverse of this—

"Better to reign in hell than serve in heaven!"

"TO GO DOWN ALIVE INTO THE PIT."

Unhappy wretches, who alive go down into the pit of Hades, dying twice, while other men die only once.

So Numbers (xvi. 33)—"They went down alive into the pit;" and Psalms (lv. 15)—"Let them go down into hell;" and Hebrews (ix. 27)—"And it is appointed unto men once to die."

WE ARE NOT IGNORANT OF MISFORTUNES.

O friends! we have by no means been unacquainted with woes.

So Romans (v. 4)—"Patience worketh experience;" and 2 Corinthians (ii. 11)—"We are not ignorant of his devices."

DEATH BY HUNGER.

Death in all shapes is hateful to unhappy man, but the most dreadful is to die and meet our fate by hunger.

A TWICE-TOLD TALE.

And what so tedious as a twice-told tale?

So Matthew (vi. 7)—"Use not vain repetitions."

HONOR TO THE OLD.

It would be improper to afflict with disgrace the oldest and worthiest.

So Proverbs (xvi. 31)—"The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness."

THE OPPRESSED ARE CARED FOR BY GOD.

May they be punished by Jove, the protector of suppliants, who watches over men, and makes those who commit wrong pay a due penalty.

So Psalms (x. 14)—“Thou beholdest mischief and spite, to requite it with Thy hand.”

ENDURE WHAT HAPPENS FROM NECESSITY.

Whatsoever sorrows may be thy doom, bear them with patience if necessity entail them.

So Hebrews (xii. 1)—“Let us run with patience the race that is set before us;” and James (i. 4)—“Let patience have her perfect work.”

ENDURE.

Submit in silence to many ills, enduring the violence of men.

So Isaiah (liii. 7)—“He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth.”

I CANNOT LEAVE THEE.

Wherefore I am not able to leave thee, since thou art unfortunate.

So Psalms (xxxvii. 28)—“The Lord forsaketh not His saints.”

“IF GOD BE FOR US.”

Would that thou wouldst stand by me and encourage me, thou blue-eyed goddess; with thee on my side would I be willing to encounter three hundred men.

So Psalms (iii. 6)—“I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people that have set themselves against me round about;” and Romans (viii. 31)—“If God be for us, who can be against us?”

THE TORMENT OF A GUILTY CONSCIENCE.

The blessed gods love not impious acts, but honor justice and the pious deeds of men; the foes of peace and scourges of mankind, who overrun the lands of others, given to them by Jove as a prey, filling their vessels with ill-got spoil, proceed homeward, yet great fear of divine vengeance falls upon them.

So Psalms (v. 5)—“Thou art not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness; neither shall evil dwell with thee; Thou hatest all workers of iniquity;” and (xxxiii. 5)—“Thou lovest righteousness and judgment.”

A WIFE LONGING FOR HER LOST HUSBAND.

Old man, it is not every vagrant that coming with his stories can persuade the wife and son; for needy strangers, that they may have a kind reception, are prone to manufacture stories; nor do they care to speak the truth. Every vagrant who comes to Ithaca goes to my mistress with his falsehoods. She receives them kindly, inquiring each particular, while tears drop from her eyelids, like a woman who has lost her husband in some foreign land.

YOU CAN GUESS THE GRAIN FROM THE STUBBLE.

I think that, looking at the stubble, thou mayest guess the grain.

THE VARIOUS EMPLOYMENTS OF MEN.

The things which God suggested were agreeable to me; for men take delight in various employments.

So Genesis (iv. 2)—“Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain was a tiller of the ground;” and Matthew (xxii. 5)—“And went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise.”

“LIE NOT ONE TO ANOTHER.”

Why shouldst thou, being such as thou art, lie rashly?

So Colossians (iii. 9)—“Lie not one to another.”

ENJOY THE PRESENT.

Enjoy such things as thou hast; for God will give one thing and one withhold.

So Philippians (iv. 11)—“I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content;” and Hebrews (xiii. 5)—“Be content with such things as ye have.”

POWERS OF WINE.

For wine leads to folly, making even the wise to laugh immoderately, to dance, and to utter what had better have been kept silent.

So Proverbs (xx. 1)—“Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise;” and Isaiah (xxviii. 7)—“They have erred through wine, and through strong drink are out of the way.”

WOMAN MARRIED A SECOND TIME.

For thou knowest the dispositions of women; whoever marries a second time wishes her family to prosper, forgetting her former children and dead husband, never thinking of them.

So 1 Timothy (v. 9)—“A widow having been the wife of one man; but the younger widows refuse; for when they have begun to wax wanton against Christ, they will marry.”

“WELCOME THE COMING, SPEED THE PARTING GUEST.”

Who loves too much hates in the same extreme; the golden mean is to be preferred. It is equally wrong to urge the unwilling to come back and to detain him who desires to depart. True friendship's rule is “to welcome the coming, to speed the parting guest.”

So Ecclesiastes (iii. 8)—“A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace;” and Romans (xii. 13)—“Given to hospitality;” and Hebrews (xiii. 2)—“Be not forgetful to entertain strangers;” and 1 Peter (iv. 9)—“Use hospitality one to another without grudging;” and Genesis (xviii. 16)—“And Abraham went with them to bring them on the way;” and Romans (xv. 24)—“For I trust to see you in my journey, and to be brought on my way thitherward by you;” and 3 John (6)—“Whom if thou bring forward on their journey, thou shalt do well.”

MEN OF MEAN ESTATE.

With the good-will of the messenger Mercury, who imparts grace and honor to the works of men, few could with me cope in dexterous service, to pile the fire, to split the dry wood, to cut up the carcase, roast the flesh, pour out the wine, offices in which the humble wait upon the rich.

THE EMIGRANT.

There is nothing worse for mortals than a vagabond life.

So Proverbs (xxvii. 8)—“As a bird that wandereth from her nest; so is a man that wandereth from his place.”

TOO MUCH REST.

For too much rest itself becomes a pain.

So Proverbs (vi. 9)—“How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep.”

THE RETURN OF AN ONLY SON.

The father receiving his only son, the child of his old age, embraces him affectionately, as he returns from some far distant land after an absence of ten years, for whom he has suffered many a bitter pang of anxious care.

So Luke (xv. 20)—“And when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him.”

I KNOW AND UNDERSTAND.

I know, I understand; thou art giving directions to one who is acquainted with these things.

So Job (xiii. 1)—“Lo, mine eye hath seen all this, mine ear hath heard and understood it. What ye know, the same do I know also: I am not inferior unto you.”

GOD INVISIBLE.

For the gods do not make themselves visible to all.

So Exodus (xxxiii. 20)—“Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me and live;” and 1 Timothy (vi. 16)—“Whom no man hath seen, nor can see.”

I AM NOT A GOD.

I am no god; why dost thou liken me to the immortals?

See 2 Kings (v. 7)—“Am I God?”—and Psalms (lxxxix. 6)—“Who in the heaven can be compared unto the Lord?”—and Isaiah (xli. 5)—“To whom will ye liken me, and make me equal and compare me, that we may be like?”

THE POWER OF GOD.

It is easy for the gods, who inhabit the wide heaven, to raise or cast down mortal man.

See 1 Samuel (ii. 7); and 2 Chronicles (xxv. 8)—“God hath power to help and cast down;” and Psalms (lxxv. 7)—“God is the judge; He putteth down one and setteth up another;” and Luke (i. 52)—“He hath put down the mighty from their seats, and exalted them of low degree.”

READY SWORDS OFT CAUSE BLOODSHED.

The steel blade itself oft incites to deeds of violence.

CONTRIVE NOT EVIL AGAINST ONE ANOTHER.

Men ought not to devise evils against one another.

So Proverbs (iii. 29)—“Devise not evil against thy neighbor;” and (xxiv. 8)—“He that deviseth to do evil shall be called a mischievous person.”

ONE ROGUE IS USHER TO ANOTHER.

Here sure one rogue leads on another; thus it is that God for evermore links like with like.

So Matthew (xv. 14)—“Blind leaders of the blind.”

THE IDLE.

Since he has learned evil deeds he will not be willing to turn to labor; but at the people's heels forever cowering, he wishes to feed his insatiable belly by begging.

So Proverbs (xix. 24)—“A slothful man hideth his hand in his bosom, and will not so much as bring it to his mouth again.”

BAD SHEPHERDS.

Bad shepherds destroy their sheep.

So Ezekiel (xxxiv. 2)—“Woe be to the shepherds, ye eat the fat, and ye clothe you with the wool, ye kill them that are fed, but ye feed not the flock;” and John (x. 12)—“But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth; and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.”

WANT.

It is not possible for the hungry belly to conceal her wants, causing unnumbered woes to mortals, for which well-benched galleys are equipped for the barren sea, bearing ills to the enemy.

So Ecclesiastes (vi. 7)—“All the labor of man is for his mouth, and yet the appetite is not filled.”

PLAYTHINGS OF THE GREAT.

Eumœus, surely this is very wonderful, this dog lies in the dirt, beauteous in form, but I do

not know whether or not he was swift in running as he is handsome, or like those lap-dogs which the rich keep for their beauty.

A SLAVE.

For loud-thundering Jove takes away half the worth of a man when he has made him a slave.

So Proverbs (xxix. 19)—“A servant will not be corrected by words; for though he understand, he will not answer.”

THE BEGGAR.

Modesty is not good for a needy beggar.

So Luke (xi. 8)—“Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity, he will rise and give him as many as he needeth.”

PRUDENCE NOT EQUAL TO BEAUTY.

My good friend, thy wisdom is not equal to thy good looks.

So Proverbs (xi. 22)—“As a jewel of gold in a swine’s snout, so is a fair woman which is without discretion.”

GOD PROTECTS THE POOR.

The gods and avenging Furies are the protectors of the poor.

So Psalms (xii. 5)—“For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the Lord;” and (lix. 33)—“For the Lord heareth the poor.”

GOD WATCHES THE INJUSTICE OF MEN.

The gods, like strangers from some foreign land, assuming different forms, wander through cities, watching the injustice and justice of men.

So Proverbs (xv. 3)—“The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good;” and Acts (xiv. 11)—“The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men.”

ENVY NOT THY NEIGHBOR'S PROPERTY.

Thou oughtest not to envy the wealth of thy neighbor.

So Matthew (xx. 15)—“Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good?”

MAN SUBJECT TO VICISSITUDES.

The earth produces nothing feebler than man, of all that breathes or creeps on earth; for he thinks himself exempt from evil in years to come, while the gods give him strength and his knees are able to support him. But when the blest gods bring sorrow, he is unwilling to bear it with patience. For men are such as the Father of men and gods wills it.

So Job (xxv. 6); and Psalms (xxxix. 5)—“Verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity;” and (xc. 5)—“Thou carriest them away as with a flood; they are as asleep: in the morning they are like grass which groweth up. In the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down, and withereth;” and (xxx. 6)—“And in my prosperity I said, I shall never be moved;” and Psalms (xxxix. 15)—“My times are in Thy hand;” and Ecclesiastes (vii. 14)—“In the day of prosperity be joyful, but in the day of adversity consider: God also hath set the one over against the other, to the end that man should find nothing after Him.”

TO SORROW WITHOUT CEASING.

It is wrong to sorrow without ceasing.

So 2 Corinthians (ii. 7)—“Lest perhaps such an one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow;” and (vii. 10)—“The sorrow of the world worketh death.”

“I THOUGHT AS A CHILD.”

But I know and understand everything, good and bad; in days gone by I was a mere child, yet I am not able to perceive what is prudent in all circumstances.

So 1 Corinthians (xiii. 11)—“When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things;” and (xiii. 9)—“We know in part.”

A HYPOCRITE.

He soothed him with honeyed words, but his intentions were far otherwise.

So Psalms (xxviii. 3)—“Which speak peace to their neighbors, but mischief is in their hearts;” and Jeremiah (ix. 8)—“One speaketh peaceably to his neighbors with his mouth, but in heart he layeth his wait.”

TO REJECT A GIFT.

It is not good to refuse a gift.

So 1 Timothy (iv. 4)—“For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving.”

EFFECTS OF WINE.

Surely wine possesses thy senses, or else thou art always such as to speak in a foolish way.

So Isaiah (xxviii. 7)—“They also have erred through wine, and through strong drink are out of the way;” and Acts (ii. 13)—“Others mocking said, these men are full of new wine.”

ATTEND TO YOUR HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.

I wish, my son, that thou wouldst look with care after thy household, and guard all thy possessions.

So Proverbs (xxvii. 23)—“Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy herds;” and 1 Timothy (iii. 4)—“One that ruleth well his own house.”

THE IDLE.

I shall not allow any one to be idle who lives at my expense, though he has come from far.

So Genesis (iii. 19)—“In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread;” and Proverbs (xx. 4)—“The sluggard will not plough

by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing;" and 2 Thessalonians (iii. 10)—"If any would not work, neither should he eat."

CONFUSION OF TONGUES.

There was a great confusion of tongues.

So Genesis (xi. 9)—"There the Lord did confound the language of all the earth;" and Acts (ii. 4)—"They began to speak with other tongues."

SHORTNESS OF LIFE.

Mortals have a short span of life.

So Job (viii. 9)—"For we are but of yesterday, and know nothing, because our days upon earth are a shadow;" and (xiv. 1); and Psalms (xxxix. 5)—"Behold thou hast made my days as an hand-breadth, and mine age is as nothing before Thee: verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity;" and (xc. 10)—"The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow: for it is soon cut off, and we fly away."

BE PATIENT.

Be patient, my soul; thou hast at another time suffered something still worse than this.

So Psalms (xlii. 5)—"Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me?" and Romans (v. 4)—"And patience worketh experience: and experience, hope."

GOD KNOWS ALL THINGS.

For God knows all things well, the evil and good that befalls men.

So Psalms (cxxxix. 1-4)—"O Lord, Thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my down-sitting and mine up-rising: Thou understandest my thought afar off. Thou compassed my path, and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O Lord, Thou knowest it altogether."

EVEN KINGS SUFFER CALAMITIES.

The gods overwhelm those men with misfortunes who ramble about, when even on kings they impose toil.

So Job (v. 6)—“Although affliction cometh not forth of the dust, neither doth trouble spring out of the ground.”

THEY SMILED AGAINST THEIR INCLINATION.

They smiled with the jaws of another.

So Proverbs (xiv. 13)—“Even in laughter the heart is sorrowful, and the end of that mirth is heaviness.”

DO NOT PUT OFF BY PRETEXTS.

But come, do not put off under false pretexts.

So Proverbs (iii. 28)—“Say not unto thy neighbor, Go, and come again, and to-morrow I will give; when thou hast it by thee.”

BETTER TO DIE THAN TO LIVE.

It is much better to die than to live, being baulked in our objects about which we are always employed, living in hope every day.

So 1 Corinthians (ix. 15)—“It were better for me to die, than that any man should make my glorying void.”

TO PERISH BY OUR OWN FOLLY.

He proceeded on, destroyed by his own folly, bearing his own evils in his arrogant mind.

So Galatians (vi. 5)—“Every man shall bear his own burden.”

THOU SHALT SUFFER WHAT THOU INTENDEST FOR ANOTHER.

What thou thoughtest to perpetrate, that thou shalt suffer in thy own person.

So Psalms (vii. 16)—“His mischief shall return upon his own head;” and 1 Kings (ii. 44)—“The Lord shall return thy wickedness upon thine own head.”

TO BRING DEATH BY WICKED CONDUCT.

But they did not obey me to keep their hands from evil, therefore they met a shameful death for their folly.

So Proverbs (xi. 3)—“The perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them;” and (xiii. 6)—“Wickedness overthroweth the sinner.”

INSULT NOT THE DEAD.

It is impious to insult the dead.

So Proverbs (xxiv. 17)—“Rejoice not when thine enemy falleth, and let not thine heart be glad when he stumbleth.”

A STONY HEART.

Thy heart is always harder than stone.

So Ezekiel (xi. 19)—“I will take the stony heart out of their flesh.”

THE POOR MAN IS DESPISED.

Now, because I am in squalor, and clothed in rags, he despises me, and says that I am not the person I assume to be.

So James (ii. 2)—“For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile raiment; and ye have respect to him that weareth the gay clothing, and say unto him, Sit thou here in a good place; and say to the poor, Stand thou there, or Sit here under my footstool.”

HIS FAME SHALL NEVER PERISH.

The fame of his virtuous deeds shall never be forgotten, while the gods will in beauteous song preserve the name of wise Penelope.

So Psalms (cxii. 6)—“The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance;” and Proverbs (x. 7)—“The memory of the just is blessed.”

A WISE SON.

What a joyful day is this, ye friendly gods! I am in the height of joy: my son and grandson are contending for the prize of merit.

So Proverbs (x. 1)—“A wise son maketh a glad father.”

LONGINUS.

BORN ABOUT A.D. 213—DIED A.D. 273.

LONGINUS, a distinguished Greek philosopher of the third century of our era, is believed to have been born at Athens, where he was educated by his uncle, Phronto, and on his death he inherited his fortune. He had travelled through various countries with his parents, and got acquainted with all the principal philosophers of his time, of whom the most distinguished were Ammonius Saccas, Origen, Plotinus, and Amelius. He then settled at Athens, where he collected a large number of pupils, to whose instruction he devoted himself with such zeal that he had little time for the composition of any literary production. Towards the end of his life he travelled to the East, and was induced to remain at Palmyra in the service of Queen Zenobia. He encouraged her to assert her independence, and is said to have dictated a spirited letter to the Emperor Aurelian, renouncing the allegiance of the Romans. When Aurelian took the city of Palmyra, A.D. 273, Longinus was given up to the Romans, who ordered him to be executed, a fate to which he submitted with the utmost firmness. Of all his works, which were numerous, all that has come down to us consists of a considerable part of his work “On the Sublime.”

IN WHAT DOES MAN MOST RESEMBLE THE GODS ?

For well did Pythagoras answer the question, "In what do we most resemble the gods ?" when he replied, "In doing good and speaking truth."

So Proverbs (xiv. 22)—"Mercy and truth be to them that devise good;" and Ephesians (vi. 14)—"Stand, having your loins girt about with truth;" and Psalms (xcviii. 3)—"He hath remembered His mercy and His truth."

THE SUBLIME.

But the sublime, when it is introduced at a seasonable moment, has often carried all before it with the rapidity of lightning, and shown at a glance the mighty power of genius.

GENIUS.

Genius may at times want the spur, but it stands as often in need of the curb.

FROM THE SUBLIME TO THE RIDICULOUS.

Little by little we depart from the terrible and reach the ridiculous.

[Napoleon adopted this idea when he said, "There is only a step from the sublime to the ridiculous"]

GREAT ATTEMPTS.

They call to remembrance the maxim, that "In great attempts 'tis glorious e'en to fall."

PUERILITY.

What is the idea implied in puerility ? Why, it is certainly nothing more than the expressions and ideas that naturally occur to a schoolboy, and which become flat and insipid from being overwrought. And those persons are apt to fail in this

particular who, aiming at an over-subtle, accurate, and, above all, a sweet style, imperceptibly degenerate into vulgar language and frothy affectation.

WHAT IS REALLY SUBLIME ?

That is really grand and sublime which, the more we consider, the more difficult, nay, I would say impossible, it is to withstand; the impression of which sinks so deep, and is so engraven on the mind, that it cannot be effaced. In a word, you may pronounce that to be truly and really sublime which pleases at all times, and delights all kinds of men. For when men of different pursuits, modes of life, inclinations, ages, and reasoning powers, all unite in admiration of a particular work, then this united assent, and combination of so many different judgments, stamps a high and unequivocal value on that work which meets with such admiration.

GREATEST THOUGHTS UTTERED BY THE GREATEST SOULS.

For it is impossible for those who have low, mean, and grovelling ideas, and who have spent their lives in mercenary employments, to produce anything worthy of admiration, or to be a possession for all times. Grand and dignified expressions must be looked for from those, and those alone, whose thoughts are ever employed on glorious and noble objects.

LET THERE BE LIGHT.

In the same way the Jewish lawgiver, a man of no ordinary genius, when he had conceived in his mind a just idea of the grandeur of the Supreme Being, has given expression to it in noble language, in the beginning of his work containing

His laws:—"And God said," "What?" "Let there be light: and there was light. Let the earth be: and the earth was."

So Genesis (i. 3)—"And God said, Let there be light: and there was light."

HOMER.

So that, in the *Odyssey*, we may liken Homer with justice to the setting sun, whose glory, indeed, still remains, though the excessive heat of his beams has abated.

SUBLIME SPIRIT OF THE ANCIENTS.

In like manner, from the sublime and lofty spirit of the ancients there flow certain emanations, like vapors from the sacred vents, which penetrate imperceptibly into the breasts of imitators, inspiring those who are not distinguished for genius with the fire and vigor of others.

FEELINGS OF AN AUTHOR RESPECTING HIS WORK.

For if any man, at the very moment he is composing a work, should be filled with dread lest he should be producing what will not live beyond his own life and time, it must necessarily be that the labors of such a man, who feels so little confidence in himself that he cannot look forward to the esteem and applause of succeeding ages, should be imperfect and abortive.

FANCY IN ORATORY.

What, then, is the use of allowing full play to the fancy in oratory? It is, perhaps, that it enables us to make our speeches impassioned and full of vigor.

IT IS AN ART TO CONCEAL ART.

For art may then be termed perfect and complete, when it seems to be nature; and nature then is most successful, when she conceals what aid she receives from art.

WHAT NATURE DESIGNED MAN FOR.

Nature never meant man to be a low, groveling creature; but, placing him in the world, as in a wide and crowded theatre, intended that he should be the spectator of her mighty works, giving him an eager desire for every honorable pursuit. From the first moment of his birth, she implanted in his soul an inextinguishable love for all that is good and noble, and a constant longing to approach nearer to the Divine nature.

FREE GOVERNMENT THE NURSE OF GENIUS.

Must we at last give credit to that common observation so highly praised, that free government is the true nurse of genius, and that in such a state alone do perfect orators flourish, and with it decline or die? For Liberty, it is said, is alone fitted to bring out the noble thoughts of men of genius, filling them with hopes of success, with a generous emulation and desire for victory. And above all, as the labors of orators are nobly rewarded in free states, it brings into full play the innate powers of their mind, which are sharpened and polished by constant practice; and the freedom of their thoughts, as might be expected, shines forth clearly in the liberty of their debates.

SLAVERY.

Slavery, however easy may be its chains, cannot be altogether divested of its bitterness, and can

only be regarded as a prison of the soul, and a public dungeon.

LOVE OF MONEY AND LOVE OF PLEASURE.

For love of money is the disease which renders us most pitiful and grovelling, and love of pleasure is that which renders us most despicable.

LUCIAN.

LUCIAN, a classic satirist and humorist of the first merit, was born at Samorata, in Syria, in the early part of the second century of our era.

THE WORLD TO COME.

Dost thou not know what punishment awaits the wicked after this life, and in what happiness the good live?

So Matthew (xxv. 46)—“And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.”

MEN KNOW NOT THE TRUTH.

As they are men, they know not the truth.

So Ephesians (iv. 8)—“Having the understanding darkened because of the blindness of their hearts.

GOD IS OMNISCIENT.

When thou committest a sin, thou mayest perhaps conceal it from men, but thou wilt not conceal it from God, however much thou strivest.

MENANDER.

BORN B.C. 342—DIED B.C. 291.

MENANDER, the most celebrated poet of the new comedy, was a native of Athens, son of Diopeithes and Hegesistrate, flourishing in the time of the successors of Alexander. He was born the same year his father commanded the Athenian forces on the Hellespont, against Philip of Macedon. He was educated under the eye of his paternal uncle, Alexis, the comic poet, and received instruction from Theophrastus, the philosopher. He was the intimate friend of Epicurus, enjoyed the friendship of Demetrius Phalereus, and was greatly admired by the first Greek king of Egypt, Ptolemy, the son of Lagus. He is said to have been drowned while he was swimming in the harbor of Peiræus, near which he had an estate. Notwithstanding his fame as a poet, his public dramatic career, during his lifetime, was not particularly successful; for, though he composed upwards of a hundred comedies, he only gained the prize eight times.

THE BACHELOR IS HAPPY.

Happy am I, who have no wife.

CHILDREN TO BE BOUND TO YOU BY GENTLENESS.

We ought to lead our child to the right path, not by severity, but by persuasion.

THE RELATIVES OF THE POOR.

It is difficult to discover the relatives of a poor man, for no one likes to acknowledge his relationship with one who is in want, lest he should be asked for assistance.

THE POOR.

The poor man is full of fears, and imagines himself despised by all mankind. The man who enjoys only a moderate fortune is apt to look on the dark side of life.

THE POOR.

Whoever first discovered the means to support the poor increased the number of the miserable; for it would have been more simple for the man who could not live happily to die.

A DAUGHTER.

A daughter is an embarrassing and ticklish possession.

So Sheridan ("The Duenna," act i. sc. 3)—

"If a daughter you have, she's the plague of your life,
No peace shall you know, though you've buried your wife!
At twenty she mocks at the duty you taught her—
Oh, what a plague is an obstinate daughter!"

HAIL, FATHERLAND.

Hail, beloved land! I embrace thee, seeing thee after a long time; for it is not every land I so address, but only when I see my own; for what supports me with food, that I regard as a god.

So Scott ("Lay of the Last Minstrel," can. vi. st. 1)

"Breathes there the man with soul so dead,
Who never to himself has said—
This is my own, my native land?"

LOVE.

Love blinds all men, both those who act reasonably and those who act foolishly.

HABITS.

For habits are never to be neglected.

THE EVENTS OF LIFE.

Man must be prepared for every event of life, for there is nothing that is durable.

SON AND DAUGHTER.

A wise son is a delight to his father, while a daughter is a troublesome possession.

So Proverbs (x. 1)—“A wise son maketh a glad father; but a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother.”

GOD.

All places are the temple of God, for it is the mind which prays to God.

So Acts (vii. 48)—“Howbeit the most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands; as saith the prophet, Heaven is my throne, and earth is my footstool: what house will ye build me ? saith the Lord; or what is the place of my rest ? Hath not my hand made all these things ?”

HOW THE CHARACTER OF MAN IS KNOWN.

The character of man is known from his conversation.

THE WISH IS FATHER TO THE THOUGHT.

He who sees and expects only what he wishes is a foolish judge of what is true.

So Shakespeare (“King Henry IV.,” part iii. act iv. sc. 4)—

“Thy wish was father, Harry, to that thought.”

RICHES.

Riches are blind, and render men blind who set their affections upon them.

ANNOYANCES OF LIFE.

In everything thou wilt find annoyances, but thou oughtest to consider whether the advantages do not predominate.

TO DIE YOUNG.

He whom the gods love dies young.

EVERY DIFFICULTY IS OVERCOME BY LABOR.

He who labors diligently need never despair.
We can accomplish everything by diligence and labor.

WHAT IS UNEXPECTED.

I have not been unfortunate, whence I might have expected; but all things that are unexpected cause surprise.

A MODEST ASSURANCE NECESSARY.

Thy modesty, if thou art of grave demeanor, will appear suitable in the eyes of the world, my friend; if thou humblest thyself, and makest little of thyself, this is thought a just despising of thyself.

FIGHT NOT AGAINST GOD.

Fight not against the decrees of God, nor add other annoyances to the occurrences of life; bear patiently whatever happens.

So Acts (v. 29)—“We ought to obey God rather than man.”

THE ILLS OF FORTUNE.

The noble ought to bear with patience the evils of life which Fortune brings upon them, when they have not themselves to blame.

EVIL COMMUNICATIONS.

Evil communications corrupt good manners.

A PROPHET.

The wisest man is the best prophet and counsellor.

PRUDENCE.

Prudence and forethought are the origin of much that is good, if they be applied to a proper object.

IMPRUDENCE.

It requires little exertion on our part to bring misfortune upon ourselves.

KNOW THYSELF.

In many things thou dost not well to say, "Know thyself;" for it would be better to say, "Know others."

THE SLUGGARD.

A procrastinator, born merely to consume the fruits of the earth; a miserable wretch; a useless being on earth, acknowledging that he has been brought up in vain.

INDUSTRY.

Who can be happy without strenuous labor?

FOLLY.

It is not in the power of a foolish person to escape misfortune.

So Proverbs (x. 10)—"A prating fool shall fall;" and (xxvii. 22)—"Though thou shouldst bray a fool in a mortar."

GOOD RESULTS.

That which turns out well is better than any law.

CHANCE.

Chance is, as it seems, a kind of god, for it preserves many things which we do not observe.

THE JUST.

No just man has ever become suddenly rich.

ADVERSITY.

No one ought ever to despond in adverse circumstances, for they may turn out to be the cause of good to us.

So Job (v. 17)—“Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth; therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty;” and Hebrews (xii. 6)—“For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.”

So Shakespeare (“As You Like It,” act. ii, sc. 1)—

“Sweet are the uses of adversity;
Which, like the toad, ugly and venomous,
Wears yet a precious jewel in his head.”

And “Measure for Measure,” (act. iv., sc. 6)—

“’Tis a physic
That’s bitter to sweet end.”

KNOW THYSELF.

That saying, “Know thyself,” has this meaning, that thou get acquainted with thy own abilities, and with what thou art able to accomplish.

THE POOR.

The poor are always considered to be under the peculiar care of the gods.

So Psalms (lxi. 33)—“For the Lord heareth the poor, and despiseth not His prisoners.”

THE CONTINGENCIES OF FORTUNE.

It does not become any living man to say, “This will not happen to me.”

THE GOOD ARE KNOWN BY A BLUSH.

Whoever blushes seems to be good.

So Young (Night vii., l. 496)—

“The man that blushes is not quite a brute.”

THE HONORABLE.

A good and honorable character is a safe provision for every event and every turn of fortune.

GOD.

God takes particular care of the good.

COUNTRY LIFE.

Men are taught virtue and a love of independence by living in the country.

PLEASURE AND PAIN CLOSELY UNITED.

There is no pleasure of life, sprouting like a tree from one root, but there is some pain closely joined to it; and, again, nature brings good out of evil.

THE PAINS OF LIFE.

If thou expungest from life all that part which thou passest unhappily, it reduces life to a small infinitesimal fragment.

A SERVANT.

It is safest for a servant to do what he is ordered, as the proverb says.

PLEASANT AT TIMES TO PLAY THE FOOL.

It is not always suitable to be wise; to play the fool in some things is proper.

So Ecclesiastes (iii. 4)—“A time to mourn and a time to dance.”

TRUTH.

Truth when not sought after, sometimes comes to light.

MAN.

I maintain that he is most happy who, after contemplating at his ease those beautiful objects of nature, the sun, stars, water, clouds, fire, has departed speedily to the home whence he came. Whether he live a hundred years or a few, he will always have the same objects before him. Consider, therefore, the time of which I speak to be merely the place of meeting and sojourning for men, where we meet together, traffic, are cheated, gamble, and amuse ourselves. If thou departest early, thou wilt enjoy the better fate; thou hast gone furnished with provisions for the way, hated by no one. He who remains a longer time in the world, after all his labors, at last comes to an end, and, reaching a miserable old age, finds himself in want of everything. Roaming about, he finds enemies, who lay snares for him: having at last come to an end, the spirit parts from the body with great difficulty.

LEAN NOT ON YOUR OWN UNDERSTANDING.

Cease to lean on your own understanding, for the wisdom of man is nothing else but the dictates of chance, whether that be considered Divine inspiration or pure intellect. It is this that rules, turns, and preserves all things, while the wisdom of man is mere smoke and idle talk; believe what I say, and you will not have cause to blame me. All things that we do or meditate are the results of chance, though we ascribe them to our own wisdom. Chance directs all things: we ought to call this, whether intellect or forethought, as the only goddess, unless we foolishly take pleasure in vain appellations.

So Proverbs (iii. 5)—“Lean not unto thine own understanding.”

TRUTH.

To speak the truth is always the best policy; this I maintain to be the safest course in life.

WOMAN.

Of all wild beasts on earth or in sea, the greatest is a woman.

SOCIAL LIFE.

How pleasant is life if you live with those with whom you think you should live, and not merely for yourself!

THE WICKED.

If we were all eager to resist the man who inflicted injury, and were ready to bring aid, regarding any injury done as done to ourselves, and if we were prepared to assist each other, there would be less mischief done by the bad; for when these men found that they were watched and properly punished, they would either be few in number, or would disappear altogether.

FRIENDS.

Not only are the riches of friends common property, but their wisdom and forethought also ought to be so.

HEIGHT OF IMPUDENCE.

The man who cannot blush, and who has no feelings of fear, has reached the acme of impudence.

IGNORANCE.

There is nothing more daring than ignorance.

UNFORESEEN MISFORTUNE.

Ah me! unforeseen misfortune is apt to bring on madness.

GOOD HEALTH.

In good health we are ready to give advice to the sick.

LOVERS.

The wrath of lovers lasts only a short time.

LAW.

Law when kept is nothing else but law; whereas law broken is both law and executioner.

LAW.

If thou respect the law, thou wilt not be terrified by the law.

LAW.

Do not first suffer the punishment of the law, and then learn its nature; but, before thou suffer, anticipate it by thy respect for it.

FALSEHOOD AND TRUTH.

It is better to prefer falsehood to truth when it is injurious.

MUTUAL ASSISTANCE.

If we gave assistance to each other, no one would be in want of fortune.

WICKEDNESS.

Wickedness does not act according to reason.

ABUSING THE GOOD THINGS OF LIFE.

For he who abuses the good things of life is a senseless being and not happy.

INJURE NO MAN.

Do injury to no man.

THE PLAUSIBLE.

The plausible has sometimes greater power than the truth, and more influence over the multitude.

A LIE.

Every wise and honorable man hates a lie.

So Proverbs (xiii. 5)—“A righteous man hateth lying.”

A LIAR.

No liar long escapes discovery.

So Proverbs (xix. 5)—“He that speaketh lies shall not escape.”

THE PURSE-PROUD.

When thou seest a man elated with pride glorying in his riches and high descent, rising even above fortune, look out for his speedy punishment, for he is only raised the higher that he may fall with a heavier crash.

WHO KNOWS THE FUTURE.

The proud and supercilious are like fools when they say, “I shall think of it by and by;” for since thou art mortal, how dost thou know that thou wilt have time to consider anything, miserable even in the midst of prosperity? For thy fortune, of its own accord, even while thou sleepest, sometimes is improving, and again goes to wreck.

THE MOTE IN OUR BROTHER'S EYE.

No one sees his own faults, but is lynx-eyed to those of his neighbor.

So Luke (vi. 41)—“And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but perceivest not the beam that is in thine own eye?”

CONSCIENCE.

The man who is conscious to himself of crime, even though he be of the boldest nature, becomes a coward.

So Shakespeare (“Hamlet,” act iii., sc. 1)—

“Thus conscience does make cowards of us all.”

SILENCE.

Nothing is more useful to man than silence.

A WORD SPOKEN.

It is as easy to draw back a stone thrown with force from the hand as to recall a word once spoken.

GOODNESS OF DISPOSITION.

How sweet is goodness of disposition when tempered with wisdom!

GOODNESS OF DISPOSITION.

By Minerva, goodness of disposition and honesty of character are happy possessions and a wonderful provision for life. Conversing with such a man, even for a short time, I become well inclined to him. Some will say, in opposition to this, that it is eloquence, particularly of the wise, that inspires confidence. Why, then, do I curse others who are equally eloquent? It is not so, but it is the character of the speaker, and not merely his words, that persuades us to feel confidence in what is said.

THE ENVIOUS.

The envious man is an enemy to himself, for his mind is always spontaneously occupied with its own unhappy thoughts.

ENVY.

O young man, thou dost not seem to me to be aware that everything is deteriorated by its own imperfections, and that what hurts comes from within. Thus rust corrodes iron, if thou rightly consider the matter; the moth eats away the garment; the worm gnaws the wood. But of all the ills of life, the worst is envy, which has done, will do, and does, most mischief,—the base attendant of an impious soul.

SLANDER.

Whosoever lends a greedy ear to a slanderous report is either himself of a radically bad disposition, or a mere child in sense.

SILENCE.

O boy hold thy tongue, silence has many advantages.

COUNTRY LIFE.

The life of those who live in the country possesses pleasures, comforting the sorrows and annoyances of man with hope.

LISTEN BEFORE DECIDING.

He who condemns before he has heard clearly the case is himself a bad man, ready to believe ill of his neighbor.

IMPUDENCE.

There is no better provision for life than impudence and a brazen face.

WISDOM COMES NOT FROM YEARS.

It is not hoary hairs that bring wisdom, but some have an old head on young shoulders.

PEACE AND WAR.

Peace gives food to the husbandman, even in the midst of rocks; war brings misery to him, even in the most fertile plains.

A BARREN COUNTRY.

The country which is cultivated with difficulty produces brave men.

WOMAN.

Where are women, there are all kinds of mischief.

AN ATTACHED SERVANT.

When one has got an attached servant, there is no nobler possession on earth.

WIFE AND CHILDREN.

To have a wife, and to be the father of children, brings many anxieties to life.

A WIFE IS A NECESSARY EVIL.

To marry a wife, if we regard the truth, is an evil, but it is a necessary evil.

A HOUSE WITHOUT AN HEIR.

The man who has abundance of this world's riches, and is without an heir to inherit them, is to be pitied.

A FATHER.

It is not difficult to know a father, for he loves much; is also irritated at the smallest faults in those he loves.

A FATHER.

How delightful is a father, gentle and cheerful in his manners!

BROTHERS.

How pleasant a thing it is for brothers to dwell together in unity!

So Psalms (~~cxiii~~. 1)—“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!”

FOLLY OF PRIDING ONESELF ON HIGH BIRTH.

My high birth suffocates me. If thou love me, mother, thou wilt not on all occasions quote my high rank; it is those only who have no peculiar good in their own nature who have recourse to splendid monuments and their noble birth, and who count up all their ancestors who have preceded them. But thou canst not see nor name a man who has not had ancestors. For how otherwise could they have come into existence? Those who are not able to name them, from change of country or want of friends, why are they less noble than those who can enumerate them? He who is by nature good and virtuous, though he be a blackamoor, is noble-born. Is some Scythian a rascal? Yet was not Anacharsis a Scythian?

THE WELL-BORN IN ADVERSITY.

Those who have been well born, and honorably brought up, though they have fallen into adversity, ought to pay regard to the world's opinion.

TRUE RICHES.

It is the mind that ought to be rich; for the riches of this world only feed the eyes, and serve merely as a veil to cover the realities of life.

THE WIFE OUGHT TO GIVE WAY TO THE HUSBAND.

The wife ought to play the second part, the husband ruling in everything; for there is no family in which the wife has had the upper hand that has not gone to ruin.

HAPPINESS AND PAIN EQUALLY DISTRIBUTED.

There are men who seem to the world around to be happy, but, inwardly, men are very much alike.

AN OLD WOMAN.

It is much worse to irritate an old woman than a dog.

SANITARY LAWS.

The plague dwells where the sanitary laws are neglected.

THE MALICIOUS.

When a malicious man puts on a kind and agreeable manner, it is a mere trap set for his neighbor.

TITLE-TATTLE.

There is nothing so pleasant to men as to talk of the affairs of their neighbors.

THE DIVINE NATURE.

Do not search into the essence of the Divine nature; for thou art impious, wishing to know what God has not revealed.

GOD IS TO BE PROPITIATED BY A PURE HEART.

If any one, offering sacrifices of numerous bulls and of goats, or, by Jupiter, of any such things, or making presents of gold or purple robes, or images of ivory or emerald, think thereby to propitiate God, he errs, and shows himself to be of a silly understanding; for he ought to be a virtuous and upright man, committing no crimes for the sake of gain. Thou shouldst not even covet a needle, Pamphilus; for God, standing near thee, sees whatever thou doest.

A FRIEND TRIED BY ADVERSITY.

Gold is tried by fire; so also the affections of a friend is proved by time.

DUST WE ARE, AND TO DUST WE RETURN.

If thou wishest to know what thou art, look at the monuments of the dead as thou passest along the road; there thou wilt find the bones and light dust of kings, and tyrants, and wise men, and of those who prided themselves on their blood and riches, on their glorious deeds, and the beauty of their person; but none of these things could resist the power of time. All men have a common grave. Looking at these things, thou mayest understand what thou art.

So Genesis (iii. 19)—“For dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.”

MOSCHUS.

FLOURISHED ABOUT B.C. 210.

MOSCHUS, a bucolic poet of Syracuse, lived about the close of the third century B.C., of whose personal history we know little more than that he was a pupil of Bion, and was acquainted with the grammarian Aristarchus. Theocritus was his model; but he is far inferior to that poet in simplicity.

THE DECEITFULNESS OF LOVE.

For he does not speak the same as he thinks; his word is honey; but, if he be enraged, he is ruthless, deceitful, never telling the truth. Wily child! he laughs at the beguiled.

THE GREAT, THE BRAVE, AND THE LEARNED LIE FORGOTTEN.

Alas, alas! when the mallows have died in a garden, or the green parsley, or blooming crisp dill, they revive and bloom another year. But we, the great, the brave, the learned, soon as the hand of death has closed our eyes, unheard of, in hollow tombs sleep a right long and endless slumber, to wake no more. Thou too in the earth wilt be buried with the silent dead; but it has appeared good to the nymphs that the frog should croak forever. Yet I do not envy him: for 'tis no pretty song he sings.

In Job (xiv. 7) we find—"There is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease. Though the root thereof wax old in the earth, and the stock thereof die in the ground; yet through the scent of water it will bud and bring forth boughs like a plant. But man dieth and wasteth away: yea man giveth up the ghost, and where is he?"

Spenser says—

“ Whence is it that the flow’ret of the field doth fade
And lieth buried long in winter’s vale?
Yet soon as spring his mantle hath displayed,
‘ It flow’reth fresh, as it should never fail,
But thing on earth that is of most avail,
As virtue’s branch and beauty’s bud,
Reliven not for any good.”

A BIRD OVER HER YOUNG.

As when a bird bewails her callow brood as they perish, which, still young, a fierce snake devours in the thick bushes, while she, kind mother, hovers over them, shrieking wildly, yet is not able, I ween, to aid her children; for she, in truth, herself is in great dread to come nearer to the cruel monster.

Virgil (Georg. iv., 512) has imitated this very closely—
“ As the sad nightingale under the shade of the poplar bewails the loss of her young, which a hard-hearted ploughman has found unfledged in her nest and carried off, while she laments the night long, and, sitting on the branch, renews her piteous song, and fills far and wide the woods with her mournful complaints.”

WEEPING.

But thou meltest away like water, weeping both at night and as many days as are given by Jove.

Thus in Joshua (vii. 5) we find—“ Wherefore the hearts of the people melted and became as water;” and in Psalms (xxii. 14)—“ I am poured out like water; my heart also in the midst of my body is like melting wax;” and Psalms (lviii. 7) —“ Let them melt away as waters which run continually.”

NICOSTRATUS.

FLOURISHED ABOUT B.C. 380.

NICOSTRATUS, the youngest of the three sons of Aristophanes, was also a comic poet; the titles of nineteen of his plays have come down to us.

A CHATTERER.

If to speak without ceasing, and much and quickly, were the sign of sense, the swallows would be regarded much wiser than we are.

NO MAN HAPPY IN EVERY RESPECT.

“No man is happy in every way.” By Minerva, beloved Euripides, thou hast described human life in one verse.

OLD THINGS BECOME NEW AGAIN.

Old things become new again in course of time. There is nothing more difficult to please than Time. The same things never continue to please this god.

POVERTY.

Dost thou know that freedom of speech is the arms of poverty? If any one lose that, he has thrown away the shield of life.

PHARECRATES.

OLD AGE.

O old age! how burdensome and grievous everywhere art thou! only not in one thing; for when we fail in strength and power, thou teachest us at that time to use our understanding with wisdom.

PHILEMON.

BORN ABOUT B.C. 360—DIED B.C. 262.

PHILEMON, a Greek dramatist, who stands next to Menander among the poets of the new comedy, was the son of Damon, and a native of Soli, in

Cilicia. He flourished in the reign of Alexander, a little earlier than Menander, whom, however, he long survived, and spent his life at Athens. His career seems to have been singularly prosperous. Though inferior to Menander, he was a greater favorite with the Athenians, and often conquered his rival in the dramatic contests. He continued to write till he had produced ninety-seven comedies. He died, it is said, from excessive laughter at a ludicrous incident.

NATURE OF MAN.

How radically bad is the nature of man! for otherwise he would stand in need of no laws to restrain him. Dost thou think that he differs in any respect from other animals? In nothing certainly, but in figure. Other animals are bent; but man is a wild beast upright in form.

OUR EVILS FOUND LIGHT WHEN COMPARED WITH THOSE OF OTHERS.

If thou only knowest the evils which others suffer, thou wouldst willingly submit to those which thou now bearest.

HOW SELDOM MAN OBTAINS HIS WISHES.

If we were all to perish who did not succeed in obtaining what we wished, all mankind would die.

TEARS.

A. If tears proved a remedy for our misfortunes, and if he who wept always ceased to grieve, we would buy tears with gold. But, alas! our affairs are in no way influenced by tears, pursuing their own course whether we weep or not. What wilt

thou do, then? *B.* I am in no way influenced by such thoughts; for grief, like a tree, has tears for its fruit.

ADVICE.

It is easy for a man to give advice to his neighbor; but to follow it oneself is not so easy. As a proof of this, I have known physicians lecturing their patients most eloquently on the benefits of abstinence; then, if they are themselves overtaken by disease, doing the very same things which they would not allow their patients to do. Theory and practice are very different.

THE HUSBANDMAN.

The husbandman is always to be rich the next year.

MAN AND OTHER ANIMALS CONTRASTED.

Why, pray, did Prometheus, who, they say, formed us and all other animals, give to each of the beasts his own peculiar nature? All lions are brave, whereas all hares are timid. Then, as to the foxes, one is not cunning and another simple in its nature; but if thou wert to collect three myriads of foxes, they would all have the same nature and the same habits. With man it is different; whatever number of persons there are, the same will be found the number of minds and of characters.

THE JUST MAN.

The just man is not he who does no man an injury, but he who, being able to inflict it, does not wish to do so; nor yet is it the man who has abstained from seizing petty gains, but who determines not to lay hold of great possessions, when

he might do so, and might hold them with impunity; nor is it the man who observes all these things, but who, endued with a noble and ingenuous disposition, wishes to be just, and not merely to seem so.

THE FOOL AND THE WISE MAN.

The man who never utters a word of sense consider to be tedious, even though he only give forth two syllables. The man who speaks with prudence, do not think him to be tedious, though he speak much and long. Take Homer as a proof of this: he writes myriads of words, yet no one ever called Homer tedious.

THE SNAIL.

How ingenious an animal is a snail, by God! When it falls in with a bad neighbor, it takes up its house, and moves off; for it dwells without anxiety, always flying the bad.

THE DIVINE NATURE.

Believe that there is a God, worship Him, but do not inquire too curiously into His essence; for thou wilt have nothing for thy trouble except the labor of inquiry. Do not care to know whether He exists or not; worship Him as if He existed, and were present.

A SLAVE.

Though a man be a slave, he is the same flesh as thyself; for no one has ever been born a slave by nature; but Fortune subjected his body to servitude.

ANGER.

We are all mad when we are in a passion; for it is a difficult task to restrain anger.

BYGONE EVILS.

How pleasant it is to think of former evils! for if I had not then been in difficulties, I would not now be in joy.

THE DIFFERENCES OF MEN.

In this thing one man is superior to another, that he is better able to bear adversity and prosperity.

WHAT WE OUGHT TO PRAY FOR.

I pray, first, for good health; then, for prosperity; thirdly, for happiness; and, lastly, to owe no man anything.

So Romans (xiii 8)—“Owe no man anything.”

ANTICIPATION OF EVIL.

Grief is apt to imagine to itself evils more than double the reality.

A GIFT OF AFFECTION.

Every gift which is given, even though it be small, is in reality great if it be given with affection.

HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER.

Before all things, pay respect to thy parents.

So Exodus (xx. 12.)—“Honor thy father and mother.”

AN AFFECTIONATE FATHER.

A father is dear if he treat affectionately his children.

THE SWALLOW.

O woman! it is the swallow which announces the spring.

GOD.

A. Tell me what thou understandest by God.
B. The Being who sees all things, and yet is seen by none.

THE DEAD.

Dost thou think that the dead who have enjoyed the good things of this life have escaped the notice of the Divinity, as if they were forgotten? Nay, there is an eye of Justice which sees all things; for we believe that there are two roads to the lower regions, one for the just and one for the impious. For if the just and the impious are to have one and the same road, and if the grave covers them both forever, then thou mayest rob, steal, plunder, and do every mischief thou choosest. Yet do not be mistaken, for there is a place of judgment below, which God the Lord of all shall occupy, whose name is terrible, and which I dare not utter, who gives a long license to sinners.

PHILIPPIDES.

FOURISHED B.C. 335.

PHILIPPIDES, one of the principal writers of the new comedy, who flourished B.C. 335, and is said to have written forty-five comedies. He is said to have died at an advanced age from excessive joy at having conquered unexpectedly in a contest with other poets.

TO COMMIT A FAULT.

When thou hast committed some fault, be glad that thou hast failed, for it is chiefly in this way that the becoming is preserved.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SAYING AND DOING.

It is not difficult for one feasting to say to another in a sorry plight, "Don't be miserable:" it is not hard to find fault with a boxer fighting, but it is no easy matter to fight: there is a great difference between saying and doing.

MAN IS BORN TO TROUBLE.

When it has happened to thee to be unfortunate, master, remember the saying of Euripides, and thou wilt be more easy—"There is no man who is happy in every way." Then imagine thyself to be one of the great crowd of mankind.

TIME.

Time, the common physician, will heal thee.

PHILISCUS.

FLOURISHED ABOUT B.C. 400.

PHILISCUS, an Athenian comic poet of the middle comedy, of whom little is known.

THE BED.

The bed usually possesses powerful reasons of persuasion to obtain what one wishes.

NOT EASY TO GAIN WITHOUT LABOR.

O fool! it is not with ease that one can get without exertion the possessions of those who exert themselves.

PINDAR.

BORN B.C. 522—DIED B.C. 442.

PINDAR, the greatest lyric poet of Greece, was a native of Bœotia, born either at Thebes, the capital of that country, or at Cynoscephalæ, a village in the territory of Thebes. We know very little of his private history, but he belonged to one of the noblest families of his country. He was sent by his father to Athens, where, under the celebrated dithyrambist, Lasos of Hermione, he learned music, dancing, and all the mysteries of the chorus requisite for his training as a lyric poet. He also attended the school of Agathocles and Apollodorus. Between the age of twenty and twenty-two Pindar began his professional career as a poet, but in the great events that took place in Greece during his time, Pindar seems to have taken no share.

WATER AND GOLD.

Water is the best of all things: gold, like a blazing fire that gleams conspicuous from afar in the night, shines prominently amidst lordly riches.

POETICAL FICTIONS.

Truly many things are wonderful: and it is not unlikely that in some cases fables decked out in cunning fictions beyond the truth give false accounts of the traditions of man. But Poesy, that smooth enchantress of mankind, by causing credit to be given to these myths, oftentimes makes the incredible to appear credible: the rolling years, however, are the surest test of truth. Now it is

wise for man to speak nothing unseemly of the gods, and thus he will be free from guilt.

SLANDERERS.

Ofttimes slanderers get no good for their pains.

GOD IS NOT TO BE DECEIVED.

If a man expects that his deeds will escape the all-seeing eyes of God, he is mistaken.

LIFE NOT TO BE PASSED INGLORIOUSLY.

A danger that is great does not allow man to be a coward. Since death is the fate of all men, why should we sit in the dark, and spend to no purpose a nameless life, taking no part in any glorious deeds?

DIFFERENCES IN MANKIND.

Some are great in this, others in that; but the highest point of glory is reached in kings.

WHAT IS DONE CANNOT BE UNDONE.

Of deeds that have been done, whether rightly or wrongly, not even Time, the sire of all things, can annul their accomplishment; yet oblivion may come with prosperity. For by success a rankling sore is got the better of and put an end to, when kind Heaven causes happiness to spread from far.

OUR FUTURE LOT UNKNOWN.

There is no appointed term to men for their death; nor do we know when we shall pass through a quiet day, the child of the sun, with never-failing good; for currents run now this way, now that, bringing both pleasures and sorrows to mortals.

WEALTH WITH VIRTUE.

It is wealth, when adorned by virtues, that brings the attainment of our different aims, suggesting to the mind a deep care for them, a conspicuous star, the brightest lamp to men.

THE WICKED PUNISHED IN THE INFERNAL REGIONS.

But he who possesses wealth is well aware of what is in store for him,—that the guilty souls of those who die here have to dree their penance in another life,—for there is one beneath the earth who judges the crimes committed in this empire of Zeus, passing sentence by a hateful constraint.

THE GOOD IN ELYSIUM.

But the good, enjoying eternal sunshine night and day, pass a life free from labor, never stirring the earth by strength of hand, nor yet the waters of the sea in that blessed abode, but with the honored of the gods, all such as took pleasure in keeping their plighted faith, spend a tearless existence, while the impious have to endure woes too horrible to look upon.

THE MAN OF GENIUS.

That man is a true poet who knows much by inherent genius, while those who have acquired their knowledge, loquacious, like crows, chatter vainly against the divine bird of Zeus.

DEEDS OF VALOR WITHOUT RISK.

Deeds of valor without risk are unhonored either among men or in hollow ships; whereas many speak of it if a noble action has been done with labor.

UNCERTAINTY OF HUMAN LIFE.

Countless mistakes hang about the minds of men; and it is a difficult thing to discover what now and also in the end is best to happen to a man.

MAN TURNED FROM HIS PURPOSE.

Now it is respectful obedience arising from forethought on which the merit and success of men depend; but it sometimes happens, in an incomprehensible way, that a cloud of forgetfulness comes over the mind, and causes the right way of doing things to be unattended to, and to pass from the memory.

THE UPS AND DOWNS OF LIFE.

But at one and the same point of time different breezes go rapidly in different directions.

VARIOUS FORTUNES OF MEN.

Still different blessings come to different people, and many are the roads to fortune by the favor of the gods.

TO REPROACH THE GODS IS WISDOM MISAPPLIED.

To reproach the gods is wisdom misapplied.

WHAT COMES BY NATURE IS THE BEST.

That which comes by nature is in all cases the best, though many men have tried to gain glory by taking lessons in valor. Whatsoever is done without the aid of the god had better be kept quiet. For there are different roads to glory, one better than another, yet one training will not lead us all alike. Perfect skill is difficult to attain.

NATURE REMAINS EVER THE SAME.

For their inborn character neither tawny fox nor roaring lions are likely to change.

FUTURITY UNKNOWN TO MAN.

No man on earth has ever yet found any sure presage from Heaven about his future success. For the indications of coming events are impervious to mortals. Many things befall men contrary to expectations, often against their wishes; while others, meeting the stormy waves of woe, have in the twinkling of an eye exchanged their deep sorrow for some substantial good.

MAN PROPOSES, GOD DISPOSES.

At present I live in hope, but the issue is in the hand of the gods.

ERUPTION OF ÆTNA.

From it are belched out of its abysses the purest jets of unapproachable fire. By day the streams of lava pour forth a lurid torrent of smoke; but in the dark the ruddy flame, rolling in volumes, carries rocks into the deep, level sea, with a fearful roar.

JOY OF MARINERS RETURNING HOME.

And to seafaring men, what first cheers them on their departure is a favorable breeze for the voyage; for it is expected, too, in the end, that they will obtain a better passage home.

EVERYTHING PROCEEDS FROM THE GODS.

For all the means of mortal valor come from the gods; they make men to be wise, mighty in deeds, and eloquent in language.

ENVY.

For the mind is offended by hearing the constant praise of an individual; and the gossip of the citizens gives secret pain to the mind chiefly when the merit of others is the theme.

ENVIED RATHER THAN PITIED.

To be envied is a nobler fate
Than to be pitied.

TRUTH.

Point thy tongue on the anvil of truth.

THE POSTHUMOUS VERDICT OF PUBLIC OPINION.

The posthumous verdict of public opinion alone shows the life of the dead to historians and poets.

WHAT IS TO BE DESIRED IN LIFE.

The enjoyment of prosperity is what is first to be desired; to be well-spoken, is the next best thing in life; but he who has enjoyed both, and really felt them, has received the highest crown of all.

A BENEFACTOR SHOULD BE REPAID.

It is by the express direction of the gods, as the story goes, that Ixion warns mortals, as he writhes and sprawls on the revolving wheel, "to pay back to one's benefactor, requiting him by kindly returns."

A STRAIGHTFORWARD, PLAIN-SPEAKING MAN.

In every form of government a straightforward, plain-speaking man is most respected, whether it be a despotism, or tumultuous democracy, or where the educated few hold the sway.

WE MUST NOT FIGHT AGAINST GOD.

We should not fight against God.

FOOLS.

But that set of men is the most foolish of all who despise things at home, and feel pleasure at what is far off, pursuing vain objects with silly hopes.

SELF-INTEREST GETS THE BETTER OF WISDOM.

For even wisdom is got the better by self-interest.

ASK OF THE GODS WHAT IS REASONABLE.

It is right to ask of the gods what is suitable to reason, recollecting what is before our feet, and of what nature we are. Do not, my soul, be anxious for an immortal life, but draw only on what is practicable.

GOOD AND EVIL.

The immortals award to mortals a couple of woes with every good. These woes the silly cannot submit to with patience, but only the well-born, who turn the fair side outwards (as we do old clothes).

WISDOM AND FORTUNE NECESSARY TO BE JOINED.

But if any one has found the way of truth by his understanding, his prosperity he must obtain from the gods. Yet there are different currents of violent winds at different times. Man's happiness does not continue long if it be excessive.

“THERE IS A TIDE IN THE AFFAIRS OF MEN.”

For the right time of action has a brief limit for men.

WEALTH GIVES INFLUENCE.

'Tis their wealth that gives men their influence, when they have received it from fortune combined with disinterested virtue, and take it to their house as an attendant that finds him many friends.

EXCUSE.

In that he did not take with him Excuse, the child of late-minded Afterthought.

WE ARE CREATURES OF A DAY.

We are creatures of a day; what man is no one can say. Man is but a shadowy dream; and yet, when glory comes to them from Heaven, a bright light shines around them, and a pleasant life attends them.

VARIOUS PARTS TO VARIOUS MEN.

Various parts are assigned to various men, but every one should proceed in a straightforward path, and contend with his understanding. For strength succeeds in action, but mind in counsel in those who naturally foresee the future.

THE MISER.

I care not to keep buried in my hall great wealth, but I would rather enjoy what I have, and be regarded as liberal to my friends, for the hopes of much-toiling men proceed on common interests.

OUR OWN SORROWS.

For a family trouble seizes on every one alike, though for another's woes the heart soon ceases to grieve.

INBORN MERIT.

'Tis by inborn merit that a man acquires pre-eminence; whereas he who acts by precepts is a man of naught, swaying from this side to that, never setting down a firm, well-directed foot; much he attempts, but to little purpose.

MIRTH THE BEST PHYSICIAN FOR MAN'S TOILS.

Mirth is the best physician for man's toils, when brought to a close. Songs, the wise daughters of the Muses, soothe him by their gentle approach. Nor does the warm water of the bath so soften the limbs as pleasing words set to the music of the harp relieve toil. A poem lives longer than deeds, when by the aid of the Graces the tongue draws it forth from the depth of the heart.

TRUTH NOT ALWAYS TO BE TOLD.

Truth is not always the best thing to show its face; silence is often the wisest thing for man to observe.

DESTINY DECIDES MAN'S ACTIONS.

It is the destiny that is born with man which determines all his actions.

THE RACE OF GODS AND MEN.

There is one and the same race of gods and men; it is from the same mother that we draw the breath of life; but powers wholly distinct separate us, for the one race is naught, while the brazen vault of heaven remains for all time a secure abode to the others. Yet we are in some respects like to the immortals both in mighty intellect and in form; though we are ignorant of the goal that fate has marked out for us to run to, both by night and by day.

FUSILLANIMITY.

But among mortals the one is deprived of success by empty boasting, so another, too much distrustful of his strength, fails to secure the honors that rightfully belong to him, being dragged backward by a spirit deficient in daring.

SEEDS OF LINEAL WORTH APPEAR AT INTERVALS.

The brave deeds of their ancestors are reproduced in men, alternating in generations. Lands of black loam do not continuously give forth their produce, nor will trees bear a rich perfume on every returning season, but only in turns. And thus, likewise, is the human race led on by fate, and the signs that men get from Zeus are not clear. Yet withal we enter upon proud schemes, and eagerly attempt many enterprises, for we are led on by insatiate hopes, while the currents of events lie far beyond our knowledge.

CUSTOM.

Custom is the sovereign of mortals and of gods; with its powerful hand it regulates things the most violent.

“SUFFICIENT UNTO THE DAY IS THE EVIL
THEREOF.”

That which is present it is best at all times to look to; for an age of calamities hangs over men, making the path of life to be winding; and yet even these evils are able to be amended, if men enjoy but freedom. A man ought to indulge in good hopes.

PLATO.

BORN B.C. 428—DIED B.C. 347.

PLATO, the celebrated philosopher of Athens, is said to have been the son of Ariston and Perictione, or Potone. His paternal family boasted of being descended from Codrus, and his maternal ancestors traced their descent from Solon. He received instruction from the most distinguished masters of his time in grammar, music, and gymnastics; but he attached himself, in his twentieth year, to Socrates, and from that time was devoted to philosophy. Towards the close of his life he thanked God that he had been made a contemporary of Socrates. On the death of Socrates, he betook himself to Eucleides, at Megara; and through his eagerness for knowledge, he was induced to visit Egypt, Sicily, and the Greek colonies of Lower Italy.

During his residence in Sicily he became acquainted with the elder Dionysius; but soon quarrelled with that tyrant. On his return to Athens, he began to teach in the gymnasium of the Academy, and its shady avenues near the city. His occupation as a teacher was twice interrupted by journeys to Sicily. He is said to have died while writing, in his eighty-first, or, according to others, in the eighty-fourth year of his age.

THE WISDOM OF THE WORLD OF NO VALUE.

The God, O men, seems to me to be really wise; and by His oracle to mean this, that the wisdom of this world is foolishness, and of none effect.

OBEY GOD RATHER THAN MAN.

If you were to offer, as I said, to dismiss me on such conditions, I would exclaim, O Athenians! I regard you with the utmost respect and affection, but I shall obey God rather than you; and, as long as I have life, and am able, I shall not cease devoting myself to the pursuit of wisdom, and warning every one of you whom I happen to meet.

TAKE CARE OF THE SOUL RATHER THAN OF THE BODY.

For I go about doing nothing else than preaching to young and old among you that it is not the duty of man to take care of the body, and of riches, so much as to look after the soul, how it may be made into the most perfect state; telling you that virtue is not acquired from riches, but men derive riches, and every other blessing, private and public, from virtue.

FEAR NOT THEM THAT KILL THE BODY.

For neither Meletus nor Anytus can injure me. It is not in their power; for I do not think that it is possible for a better man to be injured by a worse.

A JUDGE IS BOUND TO DECIDE WITH JUSTICE.

For a judge sits on the judgment-seat, not to administer laws by favor, but to decide with fairness; and he has taken an oath that he will not gratify his friends, but determine with a strict regard to law.

WHAT IS DEATH?

Besides, we may conclude that there is great hope that death is a blessing. For death is one

of two things, either the dead may be nothing and have no feeling, or, as some say, there is a certain change and transference of the soul from one place to another. Well, then, if there be no feeling, but it be like sleep, when the sleeper has no dream, death would surely be a wonderful gain. For I should think, if any one having picked out a night on which he had slept so soundly that he had no dream, and having compared all the nights and days of his life with this night, should be asked to consider and say how many days and nights he had lived better and more pleasantly than this night during his whole life, I should think that not only a private person, but even the great king himself, would find them easy to number in comparison with other days and nights. If, then, death be a thing of this kind, I call it gain, for thus all futurity appears to be nothing more than one night. If, on the other hand, death be a removal hence to another place, and what is said be true, that all the dead are there, what greater blessing can there be than this, ye judges ?

RETURN NOT EVIL FOR EVIL.

Neither ought a man to return evil for evil, as many think; since at no time ought we to do an injury to our neighbors.

“FROM WHENCE COME WARS AND FIGHTINGS
AMONG YOU ?”

For nothing else but the body and its desires cause wars, seditions, and fightings.

THE SPIRIT AT WAR WITH THE FLESH.

As long as we are encumbered with the body and our soul is polluted with such an evil, we shall

never be able sufficiently to obtain what we desire.

So Matthew (xxvi. 41)—“The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

WISDOM IS THE RIGHT COIN.

That alone—I mean wisdom—is the true and unalloyed coin, for which we ought to exchange all these things; for this, and with this, everything is in reality bought and sold—fortitude, temperance, and justice; and, in a word, true virtue subsists with wisdom.

THE SOUL.

Is it possible, then, that the soul, which is invisible, and proceeding to another place, spotless, pure, and invisible (and, therefore, truly called Hades—*i.e.* invisible), to dwell with the good and wise God (where, if God so wills it, my soul must immediately go),—can this soul of ours, I say, being such and of such an essence, when it is separated from the body, be at once dissipated and utterly destroyed, as many men say? It is impossible to think so, beloved Cebes and Simmias; but it is much rather thus—if it is severed in a state of purity, carrying with it none of the pollutions of the body, inasmuch as it did not willingly unite with the body in this present life, but fled from it, and gathered itself within itself, as always meditating this—would this be anything else than studying philosophy in a proper spirit, and pondering how one might die easily? would not this be a meditation on death?

So 1 John (iii. 2)—“Beloved, it doth not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is.”

TRANSMIGRATION OF SOULS.

For example, those who have given themselves up to gluttony, sensuality, and drunkenness, and have put no restraint on their passions, will assume the form of asses, and such like beasts. And those who have preferred to lead a life of injustice, tyranny, and rapine, will put on the appearance of wolves, hawks, and kites.

CAUSE OF MISANTHROPY.

For misanthropy arises from a man trusting another without having a sufficient knowledge of his character, and, thinking him to be truthful, sincere, and honorable, finds a little afterwards that he is wicked, faithless; and then he meets with another of the same character. When a man experiences this often, and, more particularly, from those whom he considered his most dear and best friends,—at last, having frequently made a slip, he hates the whole world, and thinks that there is nothing sound at all in any of them.

PUNISHMENT OF THE WICKED.

But when, being borne along, they arrive at the Acherusian lake, there they call upon and entreat, some those whom they slew, others those whom they injured, entreating them, they implore and humbly pray that they would allow them to go into the lake and receive them.

So Luke (xvi. 23)—“ And in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.”

THE BODY THE GRAVE OF THE SOUL.

For some say that the body is the tomb of the soul, as being buried at the present time.

WISDOM.

It would be well, Agatho (said Socrates), if wisdom were of that nature that it would flow from the person who was filled with it to the one who was empty, when we touched each other, like the water in two cups, which will flow through a flock of wool from the fuller into the emptier, until both are equal.

DRUNKENNESS.

For from my knowledge of medicine, it has become very clear to me that drunkenness is a bad thing to men, and I would neither myself be willing to drink far on nor advise any one else to do so, especially if they were suffering from a surfeit of the night before.

TO DIE FOR ANOTHER.

As to what Homer said, that a god breathed strength into some heroes, Love furnishes this, produced from himself to all lovers.

Moreover, to die for another lovers alone are ready, not only men, but also women.

MEN OF SENSE CONTRASTED WITH THE MULTITUDE.

For to a man of any mind a few persons of sense are more awful than a multitude of fools.

LOVE MAKES A MAN TO BE A POET.

Each becomes a poet when Love touches him, though he was not musical before.

Shakespeare ("As You Like It," act ii, sc. 7) speaks of a lover—

"With his woful ballad, made to his mistress' eyebrow."

THE EFFECT OF LOVE.

For it is Love that causes peace among men, a calm on the sea, a lulling of the winds, sweet sleep on joyless beds. It is he who takes from us the feeling of enmity, and fills us with those of friendship; who establishes friendly meetings, being the leader in festivals, dances, and sacrifices, giving mildness and driving away harshness; the beneficent bestower of goodwill, the non-giver of enmity; gracious to the good, looked up to by the wise, admired by the gods; envied by those who have no lot in life, possessed by those who have; the parent of luxury, of tenderness, of elegance, of grace, of desire, and regret; careful of the good, regardless of the bad; in labor, in fear, in wishes, and in speech, the pilot, the defender, the bystander and best savior; of gods and men, taken altogether, the ornament; a leader the most beautiful and best, in whose train it becomes every man to follow, hymning well his praise, and bearing a part in that sweet song which he sings himself, when soothing the mind of every god and man.

"IF THY RIGHT HAND OFFEND THEE CUT IT OFF."

Since men are willing to have their feet and hands cut off, if their own limbs seem to them to be an evil; nor do they cherish and embrace that which may belong to themselves merely because it is their own: unless, indeed, any one should choose to say that what is good is attached to his own nature, and is his own, while that which is evil is foreign and accidental; since there is nothing else of which men are in love but good alone.

VIRTUE IS FROM GOD.

The virtue that is in us comes not from nature, nor is it taught, but is put in us by the Divinity.

So 2 Corinthians (iii. 5)—“Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think anything as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God.”

THE ATHEIST.

Those are profane who think that nothing else exists except what they can grasp with their hands.

So Psalms (xiv. 1)—“The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt; they have done abominable works; there is none that doeth good.”

THE PHILOSOPHER.

Whether a man dwelling in the city is nobly or ignobly born, whether some unfortunate event has taken place to one of his ancestors, man or woman is equally unknown to him as the number of measures of water in the sea, as the proverb goes. And he is not aware of his own ignorance; nor does he keep aloof from such things from mere vanity, but, in reality, his body only dwells in the city and sojourns there, while his mind regarding all such things as trivial, and of no real moment, despising them, is carried about everywhere, as Pindar says, measuring things under the earth and upon its surface, raising his eyes to the stars in heaven, and examining into the nature of everything in the whole universe, never stooping to anything near at hand.

FOLLY OF PRIDE OF BIRTH.

And when they praise nobleness of birth,—how some great man is able to show seven rich ancestors,—he thinks that such praise can only proceed

from the stupid, and from men who look merely at trifles; in fact, from those who, through ignorance, are not able to take a comprehensive view of the question, nor to perceive that every man has countless myriads of ancestors and progenitors, amongst whom there must have been myriads of rich and poor, kings and slaves, barbarians and Greeks.

EVIL.

It is not possible, Theodorus, to get rid of evil altogether; for there must always be something opposite to good; nor can it be placed among the gods, but must of necessity circulate round this mortal nature and world of ours. Wherefore we ought to fly hence as soon as possible to that upper region; but this flight is our resembling the Divinity as much as we are able, and this resemblance is that we should be just, and holy, and wise.

So John (iii. 6)—“That which is born of the flesh is flesh.”

GOD AND MAN.

God is in nowise in the least unjust, but is as just as possible; and there is no one more like to Him than the man among us who has become as just as possible. It is on this that the real excellence of a man depends, and his nothingness and worthlessness.

So Psalms (xi. 7)—“For the righteous Lord loveth righteousness.”

“WHO SHALL DELIVER ME FROM THE BODY OF THIS DEATH?”

Being initiated, and beholding perfect, simple, and happy visions in the pure light—being ourselves pure, and, as yet, unclothed with this,

which, carrying about us, we call the body, to which we are bound as an oyster to its shell.

EVERY GOOD GIFT IS FROM ABOVE.

Tell me, therefore, what benefits the gods derive from the gifts they receive from us; for the advantage derived from what they bestow is evident to every one; for there is no perfect gift which they do not bestow; but how are they benefited by what they get from us? Have we so much advantage in this traffic, that we receive everything good from them, and they nothing from us?

EXPERIENCE.

Chærephon, there are many arts among men, the knowledge of which is acquired bit by bit by experience. For it is experience that causes our life to move forward by the skill we acquire, while want of experience subjects us to the effects of chance.

BEST THINGS ARE HEALTH, BEAUTY, AND RICHES.

I think you must have heard at banquets men singing that distich, in which the singers run over the various blessings of life,—how the best is health, the second is beauty, and the third, as the author of the song says, is to be rich with innocence.

PUNISHMENT.

Punishment brings wisdom, makes men more just, and is the healing art of wickedness.

So Hebrews (xii. 5)—“My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of Him.”

THE ADVANTAGE OF CHASTISEMENT.

Those who derive advantage, suffering punishment both from gods and men, are such as have been guilty of offences that can be cured; yet it is through pain and torments that advantage is derived both here and in Hades; for injustice cannot be got rid of in any other way.

So Psalms (ciii. 3)—“Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases.”

TO BE, AND NOT TO SEEM GOOD.

Not merely to appear good ought man to care, but to be so both privately and publicly.

So Matthew (xxiii. 28)—“Within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.”

GOOD SENSE CANNOT BE TAUGHT.

But when the affairs of the city are the subject of discussion, any one rises up and gives his opinion on such matters, whether he be a builder, a brazier, a shoemaker, a merchant, a ship's captain, rich or poor, noble or ignoble, and no one makes objection to them as to the former, that without having received instruction, or having been the pupil of any one, they yet attempt to give advice for it is evident that they think this cannot be taught.

FOOLS.

The race of fools is not to be counted.

WE OUGHT TO LISTEN TO OUR ELDERS.

As for me, Cephalus, it gives me great pleasure to converse with those who are far advanced in years; for I feel that I ought to learn from them,

as from men who have proceeded before me on that road along which we must perhaps travel, what is the nature of the road, whether it is rough and difficult, or easy and level.

MEN ARE FOND OF THE RICHES ACCUMULATED BY
THEMSELVES.

For as poets are fond of their own poems, and parents of their children, so also those who have made their own fortune are delighted with their wealth, as the workmanship of their own hands, not looking merely at its utility, as others are apt to regard it.

APPROACH OF DEATH CAUSES MAN TO REFLECT.

For be assured of this, Socrates, that when a man imagines that he is approaching the close of his life, fearful thoughts enter his mind, and anxiety about things which never occurred to him before. For the stories told us respecting the regions below,—how the man who has acted unjustly here must there dree his punishment, though he may have laughed at them hitherto, now torment his spirit, lest they should, after all, be true. And the man, either from the weakness incident to old age, or because they are seen closer to him, looks at them with more attention. Then he becomes full of suspicions and dread, ponders and considers in what he has done any one wrong. Finding in his life many wicked and base deeds, and waking up from his sleep, like a child, he is overwhelmed with terror, and lives on with sad thoughts of the future. But to the man who is conscious of no wicked deed, there is sweet and pleasant hope, the solace of old age, as Pindar says.

HATE NOT YOUR ENEMY.

If, then, any man says that it is right to give every one his due, and therefore thinks within his own mind that injury is due from a just man to his enemies, but kindness to his friends, he was not wise who said so, for he spoke not the truth; for in no case has it appeared to be just to injure any one.

THE GOOD ARE HAPPY.

Surely, then, he who lives well is both blessed and happy, and he who does not, the opposite.

So James (i. 25)—“This man shall be blessed in his deed.”

GOD SHOWS MERCY TO THE CHILDREN OF THE
RIGHTEOUS.

Some, however, extend still further than these the rewards of the gods: for they say that children's children, and a future generation of the holy and pious, are left behind them.

IMPOSTORS WHO DECEIVE MANKIND.

Itinerant mountebanks and priests, hanging about the doors of the rich, are able to persuade the foolish that they possess a power, conferred on them by the gods, of atoning, by means of sacrifices and spells, in the midst of pleasures and revellings, for crimes committed by themselves or forefathers; and if they wish to crush an enemy, they may, at small expense, oppress the just equally with the unjust; while they are able, as they say, to persuade the gods, by coaxing and magic charms, to aid them in their objects.

DIVISION OF LABOR RECOMMENDED.

From these things it follows that more will be accomplished, and better, and with more ease, if

each individual does one thing, according to the bent of his genius, at the proper time, being engaged in no other pursuit.

HOW THE YOUNG OUGHT TO BE EDUCATED.

Much less must we tell legends, in highly ornamental language, about the battles of giants, and many other and various bickerings of gods and heroes with their relatives and intimate friends; but if we expect to persuade them that no one ought, on any pretext, to hate his neighbor, and that it is impious to do so, such principles are rather to be impressed upon them in their boyhood by old men and women, and those advanced in years; and the poets ought to be compelled to write with such views before their eyes.

GOD NOT THE AUTHOR OF EVIL.

God is good—and no other must be assigned as the cause of our blessings; whereas of our sorrows we must seek some other cause, and not God.

THE WICKED PUNISHED FOR THEIR GOOD.

If they should say that the impious, as wretched, require chastisement, and, being punished, receive benefit from God, such assertion must be allowed to pass.

CHILDREN SHOULD NOT BE FRIGHTENED BY FEARFUL STORIES.

Nor let mothers, persuaded by them, frighten their children, telling them foolish stories, how certain gods go about by night, assuming the appearance of many and various strangers, lest they should be both speaking insultingly of the gods,

and at the same time be making their own children cowards.

CHARACTER OF GOD.

Ay, and more than that, God is simple and true in word and deed, never changes, never deceives any one by words, or by the suggestion of visions either by day or by night.

OVER-ATTENTION TO HEALTH.

But what is more particularly to be remarked is that this attention to health is a hindrance to learning of any kind, to invention, and to diligent study, as we are always feeling suspicious shootings and swimmings of the head, and blaming our learned studies as the cause, so that it is a great stumbling-block, when virtuous objects are aimed at and pursued, for it makes us always think ourselves ill, and never to cease feeling pain in our body.

ALL MEN ARE BRETHREN, BUT SOME ARE OF FINER CLAY.

For all you in the state are undoubtedly brethren (as we shall say, speaking in parables); but God, who made you, has mixed gold in the composition of as many as He found able to be governors of men; wherefore they are deemed the most honorable. In such as are merely assistants, He put silver; in husbandmen and other craftsmen, iron and copper. Since, then, they are all related to each other, you will, in general, beget children like to yourselves. Sometimes silver would be generated out of gold; and from silver sometimes there might spring a golden race; and in this way they are all generated from one another.

EXCELLENT THINGS ARE RARE.

For, Socrates, perhaps the common proverb is true, that excellent things are rare.

VIRTUE.

Virtue is a kind of health, beauty, and good habit of the soul.

So Titus (i. 13)—“That they may be sound in the faith.”

SIN.

Sin is disease, deformity, and weakness.

So John (viii. 34)—“Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin,” and 2 Corinthians (iii. 17)—“Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.”

TO BE DRIVEN INTO A CORNER.

And as those who play at talus with the skilful, if they themselves know little of the game, are at last driven into a corner and cannot move a piece, so also your hearers have nothing to say, being driven into a corner at this different kind of play, not with the dice, but your reasonings.

THE GOOD MAN IN AN EVIL WORLD.

‘Taking all these matters quietly into consideration, and minding his own business, like a man taking refuge under a wall in a storm of dust and spray carried forward by the wind, the good man, seeing his neighbors overwhelmed by lawless proceedings, is delighted if he may in any way lead a life here below free from injustice and unholy deeds, taking his departure from this life with good hopes, cheerfully, and in joyous spirits.

THE GOOD MAN.

And as regards the man, who is, as completely as possible, squared and made consistent with virtue in word and deed ?

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE OF MAN IN THIS
WORLD, AS CONFINED IN A DARK CAVE.

After these things, said I, compare our nature, as to education, or the want of it, to a state somewhat like the following: for behold, as it were, men in an underground, grotto-like dwelling, having the doors opening towards the light, and extended the whole length of the cavern; in it see men immured from their childhood, with their legs and necks loaded with chains, so that, remaining ever there, they can only direct their eyes forward, being unable to turn their necks round by reason of their chains; then suppose the light they receive to arise from a fire burning above, afar off, and behind, while there is a road above between the fire and those in chains, along which you may see a little wall built, very much like the raised platforms of conjurers in front of the audience, on which they exhibit their tricks.

BOYS ARE NOT TO BE FORCED TO LEARNING.

Do not, then, said I, my best of friends, train boys to learning by force and harshness; but direct them to it by what amuses their minds, so that you may be the better able to discover with accuracy the peculiar bent of the genius of each.

A DRONE IN THE STATE.

He was nothing else but a consumer of the fruits of the earth. Dost thou then, said I, mean

that we should call such a person as this, as we do a drone in a bee-hive, the annoyance of the hive, a mere drone in his house, and the cause of ailment in the state? Quite so, Socrates, he replied. And has not God, Adimantus, made all the winged drones without any sting—and those that have feet, some without stings, and some with dreadful stings? And do not those without stings continue poor to old age? whereas those that have stings are those that we called mischievous.

A DEMOCRACY.

This, then, is a democracy, in my opinion, when the poor, getting the upper hand in the state, kill some and banish others, sharing equally among the remaining citizens the magistracies and high offices, which are usually divided among them by lot.

OVERBEARING CHARACTER OF A DEMOCRACY.

When a state under democratic rule, thirsting after liberty, chances to have evil cupbearers appointed, and gets thoroughly drunk with an undiluted draught of it, then it punishes even its rulers, unless they be poor, mean-spirited beings, who grant them every license, accusing them as oligarchs, and corrupt.

LIKE MISTRESS LIKE DOG.

As the proverb goes, dogs are like to their mistresses.

EXCESS CAUSES REACTION.

For it is a fact that to do anything in excess usually causes reaction, and produces a change in the opposite direction, whether it be in the

seasons, or in plants, or in animal bodies; but this is still more the case in forms of government.

THE WEALTHY.

Such wealthy people, I think, are called the pasture of the drones.

FEW MEN HEROES TO THEIR VALETS.

If, then, I thought that we should all listen to the man, who having dwelt in the same house with him, and joining in his domestic transactions, is able to judge how he acts towards each of his domestics, on which occasions a man especially appears stripped of his actor's finery; and so also in public dangers we would order him who has observed all this to declare how the tyrant stands as regards happiness and misery in comparison with others.

THE CHARACTER OF THE LARGER NUMBER OF MANKIND.

Those, then, who have no knowledge of wisdom and virtue, but spend their lives in banquetings and things of that nature, are carried downwards, as it appears, and back to the middle space, there wandering all their lives; wherefore, never getting beyond this, they do not raise their eyes nor direct their steps to the true upper regions, nor do they ever really fill themselves with real being, nor yet have they ever tasted solid and unadulterated pleasure: but always looking downwards, like brutes, bending to the earth and their dinner-tables, they wallow in the feeding-trough and in sensuality; and, from their wish to obtain such pleasures, they kick and butt at one another, as with iron horns and hoofs, perishing from their very inability to be satisfied.

“WIIAT, IF A MAN GAIN THE WHOLE WORLD?”

Is there any one, whom it avails to take gold unjustly, if some such thing as the following happens; if, while he is taking the money, he is at the same time subjecting the best part of his nature to the worst?

ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD TO THE
JUST.

We must thus think of the just man, that, if he fall into poverty or disease, or any other of these seeming evils, all these things work together for good to him, either alive or dead. For the man is never neglected by the gods, whosoever exerts himself to the utmost to become just, and to practise virtue, so far as it is possible for a man to resemble God.

ALL RUN, BUT ONE RECEIVETH THE PRIZE.

Such are the prizes which the just man receives from the gods. What do they receive from men? Do not cunning and unjust men do the same thing as those racers who run well at the beginning, but not so at the end? For at first they leap briskly; but at last they become ridiculous, and, having their ears on their neck, they run off without any reward. But such as are true racers, coming to the goal, they both receive the prize, and are crowned.

THE JUDGMENT-DAY.

Having come to life again, he told what he had seen in his deathlike state. He said that when his soul was separated from his body it proceeded with many others, and reached a certain hallowed spot, where were two chasms in the earth close to

each other, and the same number in the heavens above opposite to them. Between them sat the judges. After they had given sentence, they ordered the just to go to the right upwards to heaven, fastening marks on the foreheads of those whose fate they had decided; and the unjust went to the left downwards, having behind an account of all which they had done. That the judges, having approached him, said that he must be a messenger to men, to give an account of the things which he had seen there, ordering him to see and hear all things in the place. And that he saw there souls departing, after they had been judged, through two openings, one in the heaven, and one in the earth. And from the other two openings he saw from the one souls ascending from the earth, covered with filth and dirt; and through the other he saw souls descending pure from heaven. And ever and anon, as they arrived, they seemed to come off a long journey, and with pleasure went to rest in a meadow, as in a public assembly. Then acquaintances saluted each other; and those from the earth asked news from above, and those from heaven inquired what was going on below. They told one another; the one party wailing and weeping when they called to mind what and how many things they had suffered and seen in their journey under the earth, (now the journey was for a thousand years;) and, on the other hand, those from heaven related their enjoyments, and sights of wondrous beauty. It would be tedious, Glaucon, to relate them all. The sum of all he said was this: whatever unjust acts they had committed, and whomsoever they had injured, for all these they atoned separately, tenfold for each, and it was in each at the rate of

one hundred years, (as the life of a man was considered to be so long,) so that they might suffer tenfold punishment for their unjust deeds; and if any one had been the cause of many deaths, either by betraying cities or camps, or enslaving men, or participating in any such wickedness, for all such things they should suffer tenfold pains; and if, on the other hand, they had bestowed benefits on any, having been just and holy, they should be rewarded according to their deserts.

NO MAN HATH SEEN GOD.

It is impossible to discover the Creator and Father of this universe, as well as His work, and when discovered to reveal Him to mankind at large.

GOD CREATED MAN AFTER HIS OWN IMAGE.

When the Creator, the Father of all things, saw that this created image of the everlasting gods had both motion and life, He pronounced it to be good; and, being delighted with the workmanship of His own hands, He proceeded to consider how He might make it still more to resemble its prototype.

THE NOBLEST VICTORY IS TO CONQUER ONESELF.

For a man to conquer himself is the first and noblest of all victories, whereas to be vanquished by himself is the basest and most shameful of all things. For such expressions show that there is a war in each of us against ourselves.

PASSIONS OF MAN.

Let us think of these things in this way: let us

imagine that each of us is a kind of animal, the wonder of the gods, either their plaything or made for some special purpose; for as to this we know nothing, but this we do know, that these passions are part of our nature, pulling us like nerves or ropes and influencing us differently, drag us to contrary points, where virtue and vice sit apart from each other. For reason says that each person ought always to follow one of these pullings and never abandoning it, be drawn in the opposite direction by the other nerves, and that this is the golden and sacred leading of the reasoning power, which is called the common law of the state. Whereas the other pullings are hard and iron-like, while this is soft as being golden and uniform, but that the rest are like to every variety of form.

MAN TWICE A CHILD.

Not only, as it seems, is the old man twice a child, but also the man who is drunk.

WISDOM AND TRUE OPINIONS.

But as to wisdom and true opinions which are firmly held, happy the man, who can retain them to his latest day; while he is perfect, who possesses these and all the good things that are contained in them.

Cicero (*De Fin.* v. 21) says; "*Præclare enim Plato, Beatum, cui etiam in senectute contigerit, ut sapientiam verasque opiniones assequi possit.*"

HOLIDAYS APPOINTED FOR MAN BY THE GODS.

The gods, feeling pity for the hard-worked race of men, have ordained, as a relaxation from their

toils, that they should enjoy the returns of feast-days in honor of the gods.

DANCING.

Are not, then, the young amongst us ready to dance? And as to the old of us, do we not think that we act properly in enjoying the sight, while we hail with delight their fun and merry-making after our activity has left us? Regretting this, and recollecting our fondness for such amusements, we establish games for those who are able in the highest degree to recall to our recollection the joyous days of our youth.

USE AND ABUSE OF WINE.

Shall we not, then, lay down a law, in the first place, that boys shall abstain altogether from wine till their eighteenth year, thereby teaching that it is wrong to add fire to fire, as through a funnel, pouring it into their body and soul before they proceed to the labors of life, thus exercising a caution as to the maddening habits of youth; afterwards to taste, indeed, wine in moderation till thirty years of age, the young abstaining altogether from intoxication and excess in wine, whereas in reaching forty years of age, man may indulge freely in banquetings, call upon the other gods, and especially invite Dionysos to the mystic rites and sports of old men, for which he kindly bestowed wine upon men, as a remedy against the moroseness of old age, so that through this we might grow young again and that by a forgetfulness of heart-sinking, the habit of the soul might become soft instead of being hard, exactly as iron becomes, when placed in the fire and moulded thus more easily?

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A SOLITUDE INFINITELY TERRIBLE.

Let us, then, assert, that, when that destruction (the deluge) came upon the earth, the affairs of man had a solitude infinitely terrible.

Cowper thus refers to the horrors of solitude, when he feigns Alexander Selkirk to say:—

“O solitude, where are the charms
That sages have seen in thy face?
Better live in the midst of alarms,
Than reign in this horrible place.”

HALF MORE THAN WHOLE.

Were they not, then, ignorant that Hesiod said, with great propriety, that “the half is often more than the whole?” For when to receive the whole brings us harm, while the half is a mark of moderation, then the smaller is of more value than what is immoderate, as it is better than the worse.

NO MAN IS EVER A LEGISLATOR.

I was on the point of saying that no man is ever a legislator; it is fortune and a variety of accidents, that fall out in many ways, that are our legislators in everything. For it may be a war that has by violence overturned the constitution and changed the laws of the state, or overwhelming poverty from want of means in the citizens. Many innovations too are brought about by diseases, when pestilences come upon states, and unfavorable seasons for a succession of years.

GOD, JUSTICE, AND THE WICKED.

Ye men, God, as the old proverb goes, having in His own being the beginning, end, and middle of all things, brings them to a just conclusion, proceeding, according to nature, in a circle. Justice

always follows at his heels, as the punisher of those who have swerved from the Divine law; and close upon her is the man who wishes to be happy, with downcast looks and well-ordered thoughts; whereas if there be one who is puffed up with overweening conceit, or proud on account of his riches or honors, or the beauty of his person, or who, it may be, is, through the thoughtless giddiness of youth, inflamed with insolence, thinking himself in need neither of ruler nor leader, but rather imagining himself fit to point out the right way to others, such a one is abandoned by the Deity to his own foolish devices. Being thus left, and joining himself to others of the same silly nature, he swaggers, throwing everything into confusion—appearing to the vulgar to be somebody, when, in fact, he is a nobody.

So Revelations (i. 8)—“I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord.” See James iv. 6; 1 Peter v. 5.

THE UNHOLY.

For the wicked man is tainted in his soul, while the man of an opposite character is pure. To receive gifts from the impure is unjustifiable either in God or man. There is much vain labor to the impious in regard to the gods, but to all the pious it is quite right. Such, then, is the mark at which we ought to aim. Whither, then, can be most directly carried, what are called the arrows of a man, and what is the shooting out by thought, as it were by arrows.

So Cicero (*De Leg.* ii. 16) says—“*Donis impiis ne placare audeant deos. Platonem audiant, qui vetat dubitare, quâ sit mente futurus Deus, cum vir nemo bonus ab improbo se donari velit.*”

PARENTS ALWAYS TO BE TREATED KINDLY.

Through the whole course of life it is right to hold, and to have held in a pre-eminent degree, the kindest language towards our parents, because there is the heaviest punishment for light and winged words, for Nemesis, the messenger of Justice, has been appointed to look after all men in such matters.

THE HUMAN RACE IS IMMORTAL.

The human race, then, is interlinked with all time, which follows, and will follow it to the end, being in this way immortal; inasmuch as leaving children's children, and being one and the same by generation, it partakes of immortality.

THE GREATEST PUNISHMENT FOR WICKEDNESS.

The greatest punishment for evil conduct is the becoming like to bad men.

So Proverbs (xiii. 6)—“Wickedness overthroweth the sinner.”

LEAVE MODESTY RATHER THAN GOLD TO CHILDREN.

It is proper to leave modesty rather than gold to children.

THE TRUTHFUL.

Truth is the source of every good to gods and men. He who expects to be blessed and fortunate in this world should be a partaker of it from the earliest moment of his life, that he may live as long as possible a person of truth; for such a man is trustworthy. But that man is untrustworthy who loveth a lie in his heart; and if it be told involuntary, and in mere wantonness, he is a fool. In

neither case can they be envied; for every knave and shallow dunce is without real friends. As time passes on to morose old age, he becomes known, and has prepared for himself at the end of his life a dreary solitude; so that, whether his associates and children be alive or not, his life becomes nearly equally a state of isolation.

SELF-LOVE.

This is what men say, that every man is naturally a lover of himself, and that it is right that it should be so. This is a mistake; for, in fact, the cause of all the blunders committed by man arises from this excessive self-love. For the lover is blinded by the object loved; so that he passes a wrong judgment on what is just, good, and beautiful, thinking that he ought always to honor what belongs to himself in preference to truth. For he who intends to be a great man ought to love neither himself nor his own things, but only what is just, whether it happens to be done by himself, or by another.

So 1 Timothy (vi. 10)—“The love of money is the root of all evil.”

“LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE BEFORE MEN.”

For no greater good can be conferred on a state than that men should be intimate and well acquainted with each other's character. Since, where a light is not reflected from their good works in the face of each other, but where a moral darkness is around them, there we are sure to find that no one receives properly the honor due to his worth. It is meet, then, that every man should exert himself never to appear to any one to be of base metal, but always artless and true.

EVEN THE GODS CANNOT USE FORCE AGAINST
NECESSITY.

Even God is said to be unable to use force against necessity.

THE BEGINNING IS THE HALF OF THE WHOLE.

For according to the proverb, the beginning is half of the whole, and we will praise a good beginning.

A MAN MUST HAVE BEEN A SERVANT TO BECOME
A GOOD MASTER.

It is proper for every one to consider, in the case of all men, that he who has not been a servant cannot become a praiseworthy master; and it is meet that we should plume ourselves rather on acting the part of a servant properly than that of the master, first, towards the laws (for in this way we are servants of the gods), and next, towards our elders.

IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION.

Now man, we say, is a tame, domesticated animal; for when he receives a proper education, and happens to possess a good natural disposition, he usually becomes an animal most divine and tame; but when he is not sufficiently nor properly trained, he is the most savage animal on the face of the earth. On this account a legislator ought to regard education neither as a secondary object, nor yet as a by-work.

EDUCATION OUGHT TO BE COMPULSORY.

Not only the boy who comes to school at the will of his father, but he, too, who neglects his education from the fault of his father, as the say-

ing is, every man and boy must be compelled to learn according to his ability, as they belong to the state rather than their parents.

A BOY DIFFICULT TO MANAGE.

Now a boy is, of all wild beasts, the most difficult to manage; for, in proportion as he has the fountain of his mental faculties not yet properly prepared, he becomes cunning and sharp, and the most insolent of wild beasts; wherefore he must be bound, as it were, with many chains.

MUCH LEARNING BRINGS DANGER TO YOUTH.

Much learning, in my opinion, brings danger to youth. (This was the doctrine of Heracleitus.)

GREAT LEARNING WITH AN IMPROPER TRAINING
IS A CALAMITY.

For ignorance of all things is an evil neither terrible nor excessive, nor yet the greatest of all; but great cleverness and much learning, if they be accompanied by a bad training, is a much greater misfortune.

FISHERS OF MEN.

May no desire ever seize you to catch men at sea, nor to rob them, making you cruel and lawless hunters.

TIME IS MONEY.

One cause is that the love of money makes time without leisure for other things except the accumulation of private property, on which the soul of every citizen is hanging, and thus it can have no thought for anything but daily pecuniary gain.

A PROOF THAT THERE IS A GOD.

In the first place, the earth, sun, and stars—all these, and the beautiful arrangement of the seasons, divided into years and months, prove that there is a God. Besides, both Greeks and barbarians believe that there are supreme beings.

NO ONE HAS EVER DIED AN ATHEIST.

My child, thou art young; but time, as it proceeds, will cause thee to change many of those opinions which thou now supportest, and induce thee to entertain the very opposite. Wait, then, till that time, that thou mayest be able properly to judge of matters of such great importance. Now, that which is of the highest moment, though thou thinkest it of no consequence at present, is that thou shouldst have correct notions of the gods, and thereby be able to direct thy course of life in a proper way. If I point out to thee, in the first place, one thing of the highest importance, I shall not appear to be telling a falsehood. Thou and thy friends are not the only parties, nor the first, who have maintained this opinion of the non-existence of the gods; for there have always been a larger or smaller number who have been laboring under this same disease. This, therefore, I shall tell thee respecting them, as I have had frequent intercourse with many of them, that not one ever, who has held such an opinion respecting the gods, has continued to old age to maintain it.

THE PROSPERITY OF THE WICKED LEADS TO DOUBTS OF THE JUSTICE OF GOD.

But the prosperity of wicked and unjust men, both in public and in private life, who, though not leading a happy life in reality, are yet thought

to do so in common opinion, being praised improperly in the works of poets, and all kinds of books, may lead thee—and I am not surprised at thy mistake—to a belief that the gods care nothing for the affairs of men. These matters disturb thee. Being led astray by foolish thoughts, and yet not being able to think ill of the gods, thou hast arrived at thy present state of mind, so as to think that the gods do indeed exist, but that they despise and neglect human affairs.

WHERE YOUR HEART IS, THERE WILL BE YOUR TREASURE.

For whatever a man's desire is, and whatsoever he may be as to his soul, such every one becomes in a great measure.

THE OMNIPRESENCE OF GOD.

But never must thou, nor any other, pray, having become unfortunate, to be superior to this judgment of the gods. For thou wilt never be neglected by it, not even though thou wert so small as to sink into the depths of the earth, nor so lofty as to ascend up into heaven; but thou wilt suffer from them the proper punishment, whether thou remainest here, or go to Hades, or be carried to some place still more wild than these.

LET NO ONE SPEAK EVIL OF HIS NEIGHBOR.

Let no one speak evil of another.

LET THERE BE NO BEGGAR.

Let there be no beggar in the state.

THE WICKED AND THE GOOD.

The wicked generally take pleasure in false pleasures, but the good in the true: in the souls

of men, there are false pleasures, mimicking, however, in a very laughable way the true.

So John (viii. 44)—“The devil is a liar and the father of it.”

MATERIALISM.

Some of them draw down to earth all things from heaven and the unseen world, laying hold of them foolishly as if they were stones and oaks. For touching all such things as these they strenuously maintain that that alone exists, which affords impact and touch, defining body and existence to be the same.

TO FALL IN BATTLE IS HONORABLE.

And truly, Menexenus, it appears, on many accounts, to be an honorable thing to fall on the field of battle.

POWER OF ORATORY.

So strongly does the speech and the tone of the orator ring in my ears that scarcely, in the third or fourth day, do I recollect myself, and perceive where on the earth I am; and, for awhile, I am willing to believe myself living in the Isles of the Blessed.

Milton, in *Comus*, says:—

“Who, as they say, would take the prison’d soul
And lap it in Elysium.”

TO LIVE WITH DISHONOR RENDERS LIFE TO BE NO LIFE.

Considering that to him who disgraces his family life is no life, and that to such a person there is no one, of gods or of men, a friend, neither while living upon earth, nor when dead under the earth.

THE COWARD AND THE KNAVE.

Riches bring no honor to him who possesses it, if there is a want of manly character; for such a one is rich for another, and not for himself. Nor do beauty of person and strength of body, if they be united with cowardice and knavery, appear becoming, but the very opposite, making the possessor to be only more conspicuous, and to show forth his want of courage.

PRIDE OF ANCESTRY.

Being well satisfied that, for a man who thinks himself to be somebody, there is nothing more disgraceful than to hold himself up as honored, not on his own account, but for the sake of his forefathers, yet hereditary honors are a noble and splendid treasure to descendants.

DEPEND ON THYSELF.

For the man who makes everything that leads to happiness, or near to it, to depend upon himself, and not upon other men, on whose good or evil actions his own doings are compelled to hinge, —such a one, I say, has adopted the very best plan for living happily. This is the man of moderation; this is the man of a manly character, and of wisdom.

NOT WHAT A MAN WISHES, BUT WHAT HE CAN.

It is not what a man wishes, as men say, speaking proverbially, but what he can.

ORIGINAL BAD HABITS NOT TO BE GOT RID OF.

My good friend, thou must not look to Midias, the quail-feeder, and others of that kidney, who affect to manage the affairs of the state, though

they still have, as the women would say, the slave-cut of hair in their souls, from want of a gentlemanlike education; not yet having got rid of it, but still acting the part of barbarians, they have come to cajole and fawn upon the city, and not to rule it.

NOBLE NATURES ARE SPRUNG FROM THE NOBLE.

Whether or not is it probable that the nobler natures are sprung from noble races ?

KIND OF PRAYER TO BE OFFERED TO GOD.

He says that we ought to pray thus: O Jupiter, our king, grant to us whatever is good, whether we pray for it or not; but avert what is evil, even though we offer our prayers to obtain it.

Shakespeare ("Anthony and Cleopatra," act ii., sc. 1) says:—

"We, ignorant of ourselves,
Beg often our own harms, which the wise powers
Deny us for our good; so find we profit,
By losing of our prayers."

Merrick (a Hymn No. ccxxv. in the Rev. W. Mercer's Church Psalter) says:—

"The good unasked in mercy grant;
The ill, though asked, deny.

JACK OF ALL TRADES AND MASTER OF NONE.

Which he expresses, while he is bringing a charge against some one that—

"Trades many knew he; but knew badly all."

GOD NOT TO BE GAINED OVER BY GIFTS.

For the Divine Nature, in my opinion, is not such as can be gained over by gifts, like a knavish usurer.

GOD FROM ALL ETERNITY.

A beginning is uncreate: for everything that is created must necessarily be created from a beginning, but a beginning itself from nothing whatever.

WHAT WE SHOULD PRAY FOR.

O beloved Pan, and ye other gods of this place, grant me to become beautiful in the inner man, and that whatever outward things I may have may be at peace with these within. May I think the wise man to be rich, and may I have as much wealth as a wise man can employ usefully and prudently. Do we need anything else, Phædrus? For myself I have prayed enough.

So Proverbs (xxx. 7)—“Two *things* have I required of thee; deny me *them* not before I die: Remove far from me vanity and lies; give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me: Lest I be full, and deny *thee*, and say, Who *is* the Lord? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God *in vain*.”

DIVINE NATURE OF EDUCATION.

For there is nothing of a more divine nature about which a man can consult than about the training of himself, and those who belong to him.

THE EDUCATION OF A SON.

For I know not anything about which a man of sense ought to feel more anxious than how his son may become the very best of men.

ONLY A FEW BLESSED AND HAPPY.

It is not possible for men to be perfectly blessed and happy, except a few.

So Matthew (vii. 14)—“Straight is the gate and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.”

PIETY TO THE GODS.

Let no one ever attempt to persuade us that there is any part of virtue belonging to the race of men greater than piety to the gods.

So Genesis (iv. 7)—“If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door;” and 1 Timothy (iv. 8)—“Godliness is profitable unto all things, having the promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.”

DANGER OF EXCESSIVE LOVE OF FREEDOM.

To those who are pursuing after free institutions, and flying from a servile yoke as an evil, I would take the liberty of giving this advice, that they be on their guard lest, from an immoderate love of ill-timed liberty, they fall into the disease with which their ancestors were afflicted, from excessive anarchy, abusing their measureless love of freedom.

SLAVERY AND FREEDOM.

For slavery and freedom, if immoderate, are each of them an evil; if moderate, they are altogether a good. Moderate is the slavery to a god; but immoderate, to men. God is a law to the men of sense; but pleasure is a law to a fool.

FATHERLAND.

But then you ought to consider that each of us is born not for himself only, but our country claims one part, our parents another, and our friends the remainder.

PHILOSOPHY.

Philosophy is a longing after heavenly wisdom.

So Psalms (xlii 2)—“My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?”—and Isaiah (lv. 6)—“Seek ye the Lord while He may be found; call ye upon Him while He is near.”

WE SHOULD STRIVE AFTER GOD.

By nature God is worthy of every pains to be acquainted with.

So Colossians (iii. 2)—“Set your affections on things above, not on things on the earth.”

PLUTARCH.

BORN ABOUT A.D. 50—DIED ABOUT A.D. 120.

PLUTARCH, one of the most celebrated writers of antiquity, was born at Chæroneia, in Bœotia. He was studying philosophy under Ammonius, at Delphi, at the time Nero was travelling through Greece, A.D. 66. His family was of distinction in his native place; and he was employed by his fellow-citizens to transact some public business for them at Rome, though it was late in life before he busied himself with Roman literature. He was lecturing at Rome in the reign of Domitian; but he spent the most of his life in his native city, where he discharged various magisterial offices, and had a priesthood. The work for which he is most distinguished is his “Parallel Lives of Forty-six Greeks and Romans.”

VILLAINS.

When men avail themselves of the assistance of villains, they regard them with the same feelings as they do venomous creatures which they employ for their poison and gall. For, while they make use of them, they show affection; but, when their purpose is accomplished, they detest their rascality.

THE PURE AND THE CARNAL-MINDED.

For, in the language of Heracleitus, the virtuous soul is pure and unmixed light, springing from the body as a flash of lightning darts from the cloud. But the soul that is carnal and immersed in sense, like a heavy and dank vapor, can with difficulty be kindled, and caused to raise its eyes heavenward.

So Romans (viii. 7)—“Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.”

THE DUTY OF A PRINCE.

For it is the highest duty of a prince to maintain the government in its proper form; and this may be accomplished not less by abstaining from grasping into his hands powers that do not belong to him, than by maintaining the authority which is his own. Now he who surrenders his authority, and he who grasps a greater power, does not continue a king or prince; but degenerating either into a demagogue or tyrant, causes his subjects to hate or despise him.

ADVANTAGES OF A HOUSE OF PEERS.

For the constitution of the state before this time had been fluctuating, and inclining sometimes to despotism and sometimes to a pure democracy; but the formation of a senate, an intermediate body, like ballast, gave it a just balance, and permanence to its institutions. For the twenty-eight senators supported the kings when the people made encroachments on their authority, and again sustained the just power of the commons when the kings attempted to make themselves absolute.

IMPORTANCE OF GOOD PRINCIPLES BEING INSTILLED INTO A PEOPLE.

Lycurgus thought that what tended most to secure the happiness and virtue of a people was the interweaving of right principles with their habits and training. These remained firm and steadfast when they were the result of the bent of the disposition, a tie stronger even than necessity; and the habits instilled by education into youth would answer in each the purpose of a law-giver.

OBEDIENCE OF A PEOPLE.

For it is certain that people will not continue obedient to those who know not how to command; while it is the duty of a good governor to teach obedience. He who knows how to show the way well, is sure to be well-followed; and as it is by a knowledge of the act of horsemanship that a horse is rendered gentle and manageable, so it is by the skill and abilities of him who sits on the throne that the people become submissive and obedient.

GLORY ATTENDS ON THE NOBLE AFTER DEATH.

Glory attends on the just and noble. It increases after death; for envy does not long survive them, and sometimes has disappeared before their death.

WRITTEN LAWS BROKEN LIKE SPIDERS' WEBS.

When Anacharsis heard what Solon was doing, he laughed at the folly of thinking that he could restrain the unjust proceedings and avarice of his citizens by written laws, which, he said, resembled in every way spiders' webs, and would, like

them, catch and hold only the poor and weak, while the rich and powerful would easily break through them.

ABSOLUTE MONARCHY.

Absolute monarchy is a fair field, but has no outlet.

NO ONE TO BE PRONOUNCED HAPPY BEFORE DEATH.

There are many and various events in the life of man that do not allow him to pride himself on present prosperity, nor to be fascinated by that happiness which is so subject to change: for futurity carries in its hidden bosom many vicissitudes for man. The man who is blessed by heaven, to the last moment of his life is pronounced by us to be happy; but the happiness of him who still lives, and is engaged in the conflicts of life, is uncertain and precarious, like that of the combatant ere the crown of victory is determined.

MAN'S DISCOURSE LIKE A PIECE OF TAPESTRY.

Themistocles replied, "That the conversation of a man resembled a piece of embroidered tapestry which, when spread out, showed its figures, but, when it is folded up, they are hidden and lost; wherefore he requested time for consideration."

WAR HAS ITS LAWS OF HONOR. ,

War at best is a savage thing, and wades to its object through a sea of violence and injustice; yet there are certain laws connected with it to which men of honor will adhere. Nor must we be so bent upon victory as to try to gain it by acts of

villany and baseness; for a great general ought to make use of his own skill and bravery, and not depend on the knavery of others.

THAT THE WEAK MUST OBEY THE STRONG, IS A
LAW OF NATURE.

Following the most ancient law of nature, which makes the weak obey the strong, beginning from God and ending with the irrational part of creation. For these are taught by nature to use the advantages which their strength gives them over the weak.

CHARMED WITH THE WORK, WE DESPISE THE
WORKMAN.

Often while we are delighted with the work, we regard the workman with contempt. Thus we are pleased with perfumes and purple, while dyers and perfumers are considered by us as low, vulgar mechanics.

THE BEAUTY OF GOODNESS.

For the beauty of goodness possesses a power of attraction, exciting in us a desire that our latter end may be the same as that of the righteous; it exercises an influence over us not merely when the living example is before our eyes, but even the mere description of it is beneficial to our minds.

So Numbers (xxiii. 10)—“ Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his! ”

ANY WORK OF IMPORTANCE REQUIRES TIME AND
LABOR.

For ease and quickness of execution are not fitted to give those enduring qualities that are necessary in a work for all time; while, on the other hand, the time that is laid out on labor is

amply repaid in the permanence it gives to the performance.

THE SPECULATIVE AND PRACTICAL PHILOSOPHER.

In my opinion there is an essential distinction between the speculative and practical philosophers; for while the former gives his thoughts to scientific and metaphysical subjects without reference to what is material, the latter devotes the noble qualities of his mind to the improvement of mankind, and to attain this object he finds riches not only an excellent assistant, but really necessary.

TO ERR IS HUMAN.

Fellow-soldiers, to commit no blunders in the execution of mighty transactions, is beyond the power of man; but the wise and good learn from their errors and indiscretion wisdom for the future.

GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER.

The worship most acceptable to God comes from a cheerful and thankful heart.

So 2 Corinthians (ix. 7)—“For God loveth a cheerful giver.”

HOW THE MINDS OF MEN OUGHT TO BE SOFTENED.

For he thought it shameful that, while those who breed horses and dogs subdue their stubborn tempers, and bring into subjection their fierce spirits, by watchfulness, kind treatment, and good feeding, rather than by whipping and confinement, he who has the command of men should not depend chiefly on gentleness and kindness in amending their faults, acting, in fact, in a more stringent and harsh manner than even gardeners do to wild fig-trees, wild pears and olives, whose

nature they change and soften by cultivation, thereby obtaining excellent and agreeable fruit.

ADVANTAGES OF A LIBERAL EDUCATION.

Men derive no greater advantage from a liberal education than that it tends to soften and polish their nature, by improving their reasoning faculties and training their habits, thus producing an evenness of temper and banishing all extremes.

A PEOPLE RUINED BY INDULGENCE.

It was a shrewd saying, whoever said it, "That the man who first brought ruin on the Roman people was he who pampered them by largesses and amusements."

THE ANGRY MAN.

Hence the angry man is full of activity, in the same way as the man in a fever is hot, the mind glowing, and being in a high state of excitement.

THE ANGRY MAN INSISTS ON THE GRATIFICATION OF HIS DESIRES BY THE SACRIFICE OF HIS LIFE.

Heracleitus says—

"Stern wrath, how strong thy sway! Though life's the forfeit,
Thy purpose must be gained."

MEN NEGLECTFUL OF RELIGIOUS WORSHIP.

Being aware that man's attention to religious worship is only to be attained by a kind of violence and compulsion.

THE ASSISTANCE OF GOD TO MAN IS A MORAL INFLUENCE, NOT DESTROYING FREE-WILL.

In surprising and startling actions, where the supernatural and the assistance of the Divinity

may be required, Homer does not introduce the Supreme Being as taking away the freedom of the will, but merely as influencing it. The Divine Power is not represented as causing the resolution, but only thoughts and ideas which naturally lead to the resolution. In this way the act cannot be called altogether involuntary, since God is the moving cause to the voluntary, and thus gives confidence and good hope. For we must either banish entirely the Supreme Being from all causality and influence over our actions, or what other way is there in which He can assist and co-operate with men? for it is impossible to suppose that He fashions our corporeal organs, or directs the motions of our hands and feet, to accomplish what He intends; but it is by suggesting certain motives, and predisposing the mind, that He excites the active powers of the will, or restrains them.

MIRACULOUS APPEARANCES NOT ALTOGETHER TO
BE REJECTED.

Indeed, we shall not deny that sweating statues and weeping images, and some even emitting drops of blood, may have existed; for wood and stone often contract a mouldiness and mildew that gives out moisture, not only exhibiting many different colors themselves, but receiving a variety of tints from the circumambient air. Yet, with all this, there is no reason why the Supreme Being should not avail Himself of these signs to predict future events. It is also very possible that a sound resembling a sigh or a groan might come from a statue by the disruption or violent separation of some of the interior parts; but it is quite beyond the bounds of possibility to imagine that an inanimate thing can give forth an articulate voice or a

clear, full, and perfect expression. As for those persons who are possessed with such a strong sense of religion that they cannot reject anything of this kind, they found their faith on the wonderful and incomprehensible power of God, for there is no kind of resemblance between Him and a human being, either in His nature, His wisdom, His power, or His operations. If, therefore, He performs something which we cannot effect, or executes what with us is impossible, there is nothing in this contradictory to reason, since, though He far excels us in everything, yet the dissimilitude and distance between Him and us appears most of all in the works that He was wrought.

INSULT WORSE TO BEAR THAN WRONG.

Thus the greater proportion of mankind are more sensitive to contemptuous language than unjust acts; for they can less easily bear insult than wrong.

RELIGION.

There are some philosophers, who define religion to be the science of worshipping the gods.

NO ONE VERY WICKED AT ONCE.

For no one ever began his attempts to shake a government by an enormous crime; but those who wink at small offences are withdrawing their attention from weightier matters.

So Psalms (lxi. 27)—“Add iniquity unto their iniquity.”

INCOMPATIBILITY OF TEMPER IN MARRIED LIFE.

For, in general, women are divorced for glaring and notable faults; yet sometimes, also, a peevish disposition, an uncomplying temper, small but

constant bickerings, though unknown to the world, cause incurable distastes in married life.

THE MINGLED LOT OF HUMAN LIFE.

But perhaps there is some superior Being, whose business it is to throw a shade over every noble and eminent action, and to make such a mingled yarn of good and ill together in our life, that it may never be entirely free from calamity; but those, as Homer says, may consider themselves happy to whom fortune gives an equal share of good and evil.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TRUE BRAVERY AND A DISREGARD OF LIFE.

Cato the elder, when somebody was praising a man for his foolhardy bravery, said "that there was an essential difference between a really brave man and one who had merely a contempt for life."

THE STRONG OUGHT TO GOVERN THE WEAK.

The first and supreme law, that of nature herself, is for those who wish to be protected to assume as governor him who is most able to protect.

THE CONSOLATION OF ENVY.

It is the usual consolation of the envious, if they cannot maintain their superiority, to represent those by whom they are surpassed as inferior to some one else.

REVERENCE OF GODS BRINGS BLESSING.

By the Romans the success of everything was ascribed to the gods, nor did they permit even in their greatest prosperity any neglect of the forms of divination and other sacred usages, regarding it as of much greater importance for the preserva-

tion of the state that their generals should show respect to the gods than that they should be victorious over their enemies.

So Sirach (i. 13)—“Whoso feareth the Lord, it shall go well with him at the last, and he shall find favor in the day of his death.”

WHY MEN REVERENCE GOD.

Men admire the gods, and think them happy, because of their freedom from death and corruption.

So Daniel (iv. 34)—“I blessed the Most High, and I praised and honored Him that liveth forever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom is from generation to generation.”

WHAT ONE DOES NOT NEED IS DEAR AT A PENNY.

He regarded nothing to be cheap that was superfluous, for what one does not need is dear at a penny; and it was better to possess fields, where the plough goes and cattle feed, than fine gardens that require much watering and sweeping.

GOODNESS AND JUSTICE.

But goodness has a wider range than justice; for we are bound by nature to observe the dictates of law and equity in our dealings with men, while the feelings of kindness and benevolence overflow, as from a gushing fountain, from the breast of the tender-hearted to creatures of every species.

KINDNESS SHOULD BE SHOWN TO EVERY LIVING CREATURE.

For we should certainly not treat living creatures as old shoes or household goods, which, if they are worn out by long use, we cast away as

useless; and if it were for no other reason than to cultivate a kind and loving disposition to mankind, we should be merciful to other creatures. For my own part, I should never think of selling an old ox which had labored in my service, much less would I be willing to remove an old slave, who had grown gray in my service, from his accustomed dwelling and diet; for to him, poor man! it would be as bad as banishment, being of as little use to the buyer as to the seller.

THE BELLY HAS NO EARS.

It is difficult to speak to the belly, because it has no ears.

STRIKING A WIFE.

He used to say that the man who struck his wife or his son laid hands on what was most sacred.

So Ephesians (v. 33)—“Let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.”

WHEN POVERTY IS DISHONORABLE.

For poverty is not dishonorable in itself, but only when it arises from idleness, intemperance, extravagance, and folly.

JUSTICE VERY UNCOMMON.

Among men, valor and prudence are seldom met with, and of all human excellences justice is still more uncommon.

So Genesis (xvii. 32)—“And Abraham said, Peradventure ten shall be found there. And the Lord said, I will not destroy it for ten’s sake.”

FAMILIARITY BREEDS CONTEMPT.

For he considered that novelty causes the imagination to add much to objects of terror, while things really fearful lose their effect by familiarity.

GOOD AND EVIL ACTIONS.

To do an evil action is base; to do a good action, without incurring danger, is common enough; but it is the part of a good man to do great and noble deeds, though he risks everything.

CUSTOMS DEPENDING ON NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

But it is evident that customs, which depend on national institutions, must more speedily make an impression on the habits and lives of the mass of a community, than the profligacy and vices of individuals have the power of corrupting a whole nation. For when the whole is diseased, the parts cannot escape; whereas, if the disorder is only in some particular part, it may be amended by those who have not yet caught the infection.

HOW FAR A PAINTER OUGHT TO REPRESENT
BLEMISHES.

For as in the case of painters who have undertaken to give us a beautiful and graceful figure, which may have some slight blemishes, we do not wish them to pass over such blemishes altogether, nor yet to mark them too prominently. The one would spoil the beauty, and the other destroy the likeness of the picture.

RESULTS OF PROSPERITY AND ADVERSITY.

For there is nothing more difficult to direct than a man on whom fortune smiles; nothing more

easily managed, when the clouds of adversity overwhelm him.

WORD-CATCHERS.

For my own part, I cannot help saying that I think all envy and jealousy respecting the style of expression which others employ betrays littleness of mind, and is the characteristic of a sophist; and when a spirit of envy leads a man to try to rival what is inimitable, it is perfectly ridiculous.

PEACE AND WAR.

They recollect with pleasure the saying, "That it was not the sound of the trumpet, but the crowing of the cock, that awoke sleepers in time of peace."

LOVE OF BRICK AND MORTAR.

He used to say, "That those who were fond of building would soon ruin themselves without the assistance of enemies."

POLITICAL ECONOMY.

For we observe that political economy, when it refers merely to inanimate objects, is employed for the paltry purposes of gain; but when it treats of human beings, it rises to a higher branch of the laws of nature.

BETTER TO ERR ON THE SIDE OF RELIGION, BY
ADHERING TO RECEIVED OPINIONS.

It is more fitting to err on the side of religion, from a regard to ancient and received opin-

ions, than to err through obstinacy and presumption.

RECURRENCE OF THE SAME EVENTS.

It is not at all surprising that Fortune, being ever changeable, should, in the course of numberless ages, often hit on events perfectly similar. For if there be no limit to the number of events that happen, Fortune can have no difficulty in furnishing herself with parallels in this abundance of matter; whereas, if their number be limited, there must necessarily be a return of the same occurrences when the whole cycle has been gone through.

TRUE HONOR.

True honor leaves no room for hesitation and doubt.

TIME DESTROYS THE STRONGEST THING.

In fact, perseverance is all-powerful; by it time, in its advances, undermines and is able to destroy the strongest things on earth; being the best friend and ally to those who use properly the opportunities that it presents, and the worst enemy to those who are rushing into action before it summons them.

DIFFERENT CONDUCT OF MEN IN PROSPERITY AND ADVERSITY.

Prosperity inspires an elevation of mind even in the mean-spirited, so that they show a certain degree of high-mindedness and chivalry in the lofty position in which fortune has placed them; but

the man who possesses real fortitude and magnanimity will show it by the dignity of his behavior under losses, and in the most adverse fortune.

MAN NEITHER SAVAGE NOR UNSOCIAL BY NATURE.

Being convinced that man is neither by birth nor by disposition a savage, nor of unsocial habits, but only becomes so by indulging in vices contrary to his nature; yet even in this case, he may be improved by change of abode, and by a different mode of life, as beasts, that are naturally wild, lay aside their fury when they have been properly trained.

THE NOBLE MINDED ADDS DIGNITY TO EVERY
ACT.

The generous mind adds dignity
To every act, and nothing misbecomes it.

DEAD MEN DO NOT BITE.

Dead men do not bite.

A STRAW SHOWS HOW THE WIND SETS.

Nor is it always in the most distinguished actions that a man's worth or malicious temper may be most easily discovered; but very often an action of small note, a short expression, or a jest, shall point out a man's real character more clearly than the greatest sieges or the most important battles.

RELIGION AND SUPERSTITION.

So true it is that, though disbelief in religion and contempt of things divine be a great evil, yet superstition is a still greater.

THE GOOD MAN IN ADVERSITY.

When the good and upright are depressed by Fortune, the only real power she exercises over them is that she brings unjust aspersions and slanders upon their character, instead of the honor and esteem in which they ought to be held; and in this way she diminishes the trust which the world ought to have in their virtue.

A PEOPLE IN ADVERSE CIRCUMSTANCES.

It is believed by some that when the affairs of a state are prosperous, the people, elated by their power and success, treat good ministers with the greater insolence; but this is a mistake. For misfortunes always irritate their tempers and annoy them; they take fire at trifles, and cannot bear to hear the smallest reproach. He who reproves their faults seems to make them the cause of their own misfortunes, and spirited language is regarded as an insult. And as honey causes wounds and ulcerated sores to smart, so it often happens that expostulation, however full of sense and truth it may be, provokes and alienates those in distress, unless gentleness and tact be shown in its application.

A PEOPLE IN ADVERSITY.

An eye in a state of inflammation avoids all bright and glaring colors, and loves to rest on what is dark and shady. In the same way a state, when fortune frowns, becomes timid and fearful, not being able to bear the voice of truth, though it is, above all things, necessary and salutary. Wherefore, it is no easy task to govern such a people; for, if the man who tells them the truth falls the first victim, he who flatters them at last perishes with them.

THE WORD OF THE GOOD IS WEIGHTY.

Since a mere word or a simple nod from the good and virtuous possesses more weight than the prepared speeches of other men.

DIFFERENT CHARACTERS IN THE SAME MAN.

It is indeed difficult, but, I believe, not impossible, for the same man to be rough and gentle, as some wines are both sweet and sour; and then again, some men, who have all the appearance of a gentle and kind manner, are worrying and unbearable by those who have to do with them.

WHAT IS GAINED WITH LABOR IS KEPT LONGEST.

It is usually the case that those who have sharp and ready wits possess weak memories, while that which is acquired with labor and perseverance is always retained longest; for every hard-gained acquisition of knowledge is a sort of annealing upon the mind.

A MAN REQUIRES TO BE BELOVED AS WELL AS ESTEEMED IF HE IS TO HAVE INFLUENCE OVER OTHERS.

There is no real desire to imitate virtue, except the person who sets the example be beloved as well as esteemed. Those who praise the good without loving them, only pay respect to their name, admiring their virtuous life without caring to follow their example.

THE HONEST STATESMAN.

The honest and upright statesman pays no regard to the popular voice except with this view, that the confidence it procures him may facilitate his designs, and crown them with success.

THE BEST NOT WITHOUT IMPERFECTIONS.

Pitying the weakness of human nature, which, not even in dispositions that are best formed to virtue, can produce excellence without some taint of imperfection.

MONEY THE SINEWS OF BUSINESS.

He who first called money the sinews of business seems more particularly to have had regard to the affairs of war.

CHARACTER OF WEAK MEN.

His weakness increased his timidity, as is common with men of weak understandings, and he began to place his safety in jealousy and suspicion.

THE SACRIFICE OF TIME.

Antiphon said that the sacrifice of time was the most costly of all sacrifices.

OUR FORTUNE DEPENDS ON OUR OWN EXERTIONS.

But virtue, like a strong and hardy plant, takes root in any place where it finds an ingenuous nature, and a mind that loves labor. Wherefore, if we do not reach that high position which we desire, we ought not to ascribe it to the obscurity of the place where we were born, but to our own little selves.

KNOW THYSELF.

But perhaps the precept "Know thyself" would not be considered divine, if every man could easily reduce it to practice.

NO BEAST MORE SAVAGE THAN MAN.

There is no beast more savage than man, when he is possessed of power equal to his passion.

POWER TESTS A MAN'S CHARACTER.

It is an observation no less just than common, that there is no stronger test of a man's real character than power and authority, exciting, as they do, every passion, and discovering every latent vice.

POPULAR GOVERNMENT.

His intention was to keep the democracy within bounds, which cannot be properly called a government, but, as Plato terms it, a warehouse of governments.

THE VAIN AND CONCEITED.

It is the admirer of himself, and not the admirer of virtue, that thinks himself superior to others.

CAUSE OF MISFORTUNES IN A FAMILY.

Unless the foundations of a family be properly prepared and laid, those who are sprung from it must necessarily be unfortunate.

THE EVIL DEEDS OF PARENTS WEIGH DOWN THE CHILDREN.

There is no one, however high-spirited he may be, that does not quail when he thinks of the evil deeds of his parents.

NATURE, LEARNING, AND TRAINING.

Nature without learning is like a blind man; learning without nature is like the maimed; practice without both these is incomplete. As in

agriculture a good soil is first sought for, then a skilful husbandman, and then good seed; in the same way nature corresponds to the soil; the teacher to the husbandman; precepts and instruction to the seed.

MOTHERS OUGHT TO SUCKLE THEIR OWN CHILDREN.

In my opinion mothers ought to bring up and suckle their own children; for they bring them up with greater affection and with greater anxiety, as loving them from the heart, and, so to speak, every inch of them. But the love of a nurse is spurious and counterfeit, as loving them only for hire.

TEACHERS MUST BE OF BLAMELESS LIVES.

Teachers ought to be sought who are of blameless lives, not liable to be found fault with, and distinguished for learning; for the source and root of a virtuous and honorable life is to be found in good training. And as husbandmen underprop plants, so good teachers, by their precepts and training, support the young, that their morals may spring up in a right and proper way.

THE EYE OF THE MASTER FATTENS THE HORSE.

In this place we may very properly insert the saying of the groom, who maintained that there was nothing which served to fatten a horse so much as the eye of its master.

TO FIND FAULT WITH A SPEECH IS EASY.

For to find fault with a speech is not difficult—nay, it is very easy; but to put anything better in its place is a work of great labor.

THE TALKATIVE.

The talkative listen to no one, for they are ever speaking. And the first evil that attends those who know not to be silent is, that they hear nothing.

MAN.

For man is a plant, not fixed in the earth, nor immovable, but heavenly, whose head, rising as it were from a root upwards, is turned towards heaven.

GOD.

I am all that was, is, and will be.

So Psalms (cii. 27)—“But thou art the same, and thy years shall have no end.”

EVIL SPIRITS.

As among men so also among spirits there are differences of goodness.

ETERNAL FIRE.

Deep doors open towards hell, and rivers of fire are seen.

So Matthew (xxv. 41)—“Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.”

WHO INJURES THEE ?

It is not God that injures thee, but thyself.

So Deuteronomy (iv. 31)—“God will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee.”

GOD IS ETERNAL.

“I am all that was, and is, and will be.” This was an inscription on a temple at Sais.

So Revelation (i. 8)—“The Lord which is, and which was, and which is to come, the almighty.”

GOD EVERYWHERE PRESENT.

He who fears the government of the gods as being gloomy and inexorable, whither will he go, whither will he flee? What land or what sea will he find without God? Into what part of the earth wilt thou descend and hide thyself, O unhappy wretch! where thou canst escape from God?

So Psalms (cxxxix. 7-10)—“Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there; if I make my bed in hell, behold thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.”

A THOUSAND YEARS AS ONE DAY.

To the gods the whole span of man's life is as nothing; the same as if a culprit is tortured or hung in the evening and not in the morning.

So Psalms (xc. 4)—“For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night.”

THE RELEASE OF THE SOUL.

When the souls set free go to the unseen, invisible, unfelt, and pure region, God is their leader and king, as they depend upon him, looking on him without ever being satisfied, and striving after a beauty which cannot be expressed or described.

So Psalms (xxxvi. 9)—“In thy light shall we see light.”

ONLY ONE GOD.

To the one Mind that arranges the whole universe, and one Providence set over all, and to the helping Powers that are ordained to all, different honors and names are given by different people through legal enactments.

So Psalms (xlii. 10)—“I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.”

FALSE SWEARING.

He who deceives by an oath, acknowledges that he fears his enemy, but despises God.

So Matthew (v. 33)—“Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths.”

REST FROM WORK.

In all kinds of attendance and of escorting the priests' heralds went before throughout the city, ordering men to keep the festival and to cease from work.

So Exodus (xxiii. 12)—“Six days shalt thou do thy work, and on the seventh thou shalt rest.”

MEN ARE BAD THROUGH IGNORANCE OF WHAT
IS GOOD.

Most men are wicked, because they have never known or tried the enjoyment of virtuous conduct.

So Ephesians (iv. 18)—“Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their hearts.”

BAD MEN ARE SLAVES.

All bad men are slaves.

So John (viii. 34)—“Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin;” and 2 Corinthians (iii. 17)—“Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.”

EVIL COUNSEL.

Evil counsel is swift in its march.

So Romans (xvi. 18)—“By good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple,” and Wisdom of Solomon (iv. 12)—“For the bewitching of naughtiness doth obscure things that are honest.”

POLYBIUS.

BORN PROBABLY ABOUT B.C. 204—DIED B.C. 122.

POLYBIUS, a celebrated Greek historian, was the son of Lycortas, a native of Megalopolis, in Arcadia, who succeeded Philopœmen in the chief direction of the Achæan League. His character was formed under the eye of Philopœmen; and at the funeral of that general he carried the urn which contained his ashes, B.C. 182. In the war which arose between the Romans and Perseus, king of Macedon, the opinion of Polybius and his father Lycortas was, that the Achæans should observe a strict neutrality; but they were overruled, and the Achæans were implicated in the ruin of Perseus. The Romans demanded a thousand of the principal citizens as hostages, and among these was Polybius, who was allowed to remain in Rome, where he resided for sixteen years, from B.C. 167 to B.C. 151. He became the intimate friend and instructor of Scipio the younger, at that time only eighteen years of age. At last, through the influence of Scipio and Cato, the Senate was prevailed upon to allow the Achæan exiles to return to their country. His principal work was entitled "General History," though it refers more particularly to a space of fifty-three years, from B.C. 220 to B.C. 168, from the commencement of the second Punic war, where the historian Timœus and Aratus of Sicyon had stopped, to the defeat of Perseus, king of Macedon, by the Romans.

KNOWLEDGE OF PAST EVENTS.

Since the knowledge of what has gone before affords the best instruction for the direction and guidance of human life.

HISTORY.

History furnishes the only proper discipline to educate and train the minds of those who wish to take part in public affairs; and the unfortunate events which it hands down for our instruction contain the wisest and most convincing lessons for enabling us to bear our own calamities with dignity and courage.

TRUTHFULNESS OF THE HISTORIAN.

It is right for a good man to love his friends and his country, and to hate the enemies of both. But when a man takes upon him to write history, he must throw aside all such feelings, and be prepared, on many occasions, to extol even an enemy when his conduct deserves applause; nor should he hesitate to censure his dearest and most esteemed friends, whenever their deeds call for condemnation. For as an animal, if it be deprived of sight, is wholly useless; so if we eliminate truth from history, what remains will be nothing but an idle tale. Now, if we pay a proper regard to truth, we shall not hesitate to stigmatize our friends on some occasions, and to praise our enemies; but it may even be necessary to commend and condemn the same persons, as different circumstances may require; since it is not to be supposed that those who are engaged in great transactions shall always be pursuing false or mistaken views; nor yet is it probable that their conduct can at all times be free from error. A historian, therefore, in all that he relates, should take care to be guided in his judgment by the genuine and real circumstances of every action, without reference to those who may have been engaged in it.

WISE COUNSEL IS BETTER THAN STRENGTH.

We may also remark, in this event, the truth of that saying of Euripides, "that one wise counsel is better than the strength of many."

TWO SOURCES FROM WHICH MAN MAY DERIVE ADVANTAGE.

For as there are only two sources from which any real advantage can be reaped—our own misfortunes, and those that have befallen others—and as the former of these, though it may be the more beneficial, is, at all events, more painful and annoying, it will always be the part of wisdom to prefer the latter, which will alone enable us at all times to perceive what is fit and useful without incurring hazard or anxiety. Hence may be seen the real value of history, which teaches us how we may direct our life, in every event that may happen, upon the truest and most approved models, without being exposed to the dangers and annoyances of other men.

IMPORTANT SERVICES EXCITE ILL-WILL.

Great and illustrious deeds are very apt to excite feelings of ill-will and spite, which, though a native of the country, if he be supported by a host of friends and relations, may perhaps be able to get the better of, yet foreigners generally sink under such attacks, and are ruined by them.

ART OF A GOOD GENERAL.

For the part of a consummate general is not only to see the way leading to victory, but also when he must give up all hopes of victory.

CHARACTER OF MERCENARIES.

The Carthaginians were in the habit of forming their armies of mercenaries drawn together from different countries; if they did so for the purpose of preventing conspiracies, and of making the soldiers more completely under the control of their generals, they may seem perhaps, in this respect, not to have acted foolishly, for troops of this sort cannot easily unite together in factious counsels. But when we take another view of the question, the wisdom of the proceeding may be doubted, if we consider the difficulty there is to instruct, soften, and subdue the minds of an army so brought together when rage has seized them, and when hatred and resentment have taken root among them, and sedition is actually begun. In such circumstances, they are no longer men, but beasts of prey. Their fury cannot be restricted within the ordinary bounds of human wickedness or violence, but breaks out into deeds the most terrible and monstrous that are to be found in nature.

CIVIL WAR.

Now were they thoroughly convinced that civil dissensions were much more to be dreaded than a war carried on in a foreign country against a foreign enemy.

MINDS OF MEN LIABLE TO MALIGNANT DISEASES.

Whoever meditates on these horrible cruelties will not fail to be satisfied that not only are the bodies of men attacked by corrupt and ulcerous humors, which cannot easily be got rid of, but that the minds of men are equally subject to strange disorders. In the case of ulcerated sores, the very medicines which you apply often only tend to irri-

tate and inflame, quickening the progress of the disease; yet, on the other hand, if the disease be neglected and left to its own course, it infects all the neighboring parts, and proceeds till the whole body becomes unsound. So it is with the mind; when certain dark and malignant passions get possession of it, they render men more savage than the beasts themselves. To men in this state, if you show mercy and kindness, suspecting it to be fraud and artifice, they become more suspicious than before, and regard you with still stronger feelings of aversion. But if you oppose their furious proceedings, there is no crime too horrible for them to perpetrate. They exult and glory in their impieties, and by degrees get rid of every feeling and affection that embellish human nature. There is no doubt but that these disorders chiefly arise from a bad education and evil communications, though there are many other causes which may sometimes assist to bring them on, among which none is so likely to be effectual as the insolent conduct and rapacity of public governors.

BALANCE OF POWER IN THE WORLD.

Nor ought we ever to allow any growing power to acquire such a degree of strength as to be able to tear from us, without resistance, our natural, undisputed rights.

DO NOT CALCULATE ON THE FUTURE.

A circumstance which happened to the *Ætolians* ought to convince us that we ought not to speculate on the future as if it were already past, nor build expectations on events which may eventually turn out very differently from what they seemed at first to promise; but in all human affairs, and especially in those that relate to war, to

leave always some room to fortune and to accidents which cannot be foreseen.

CALAMITIES ARISING FROM FORTUNE AND OURSELVES CONTRASTED.

For when man falls into any of those calamities to which human nature is subject, and which could not be guarded against by any care or foresight, the fault is justly attributed to fortune, or some enemy; but when our troubles arise from our foolish and indiscreet conduct, the blame can be imputed only to ourselves. And as unmerited misfortune usually excites the pity of mankind, while it induces them to participate in and aid us in our distresses; so, on the other hand, a clear and evident folly calls for the censure and reproaches of all who regard it in a proper light.

A ROMAN CITIZEN.

But among the Romans, O queen, it is one of their noblest customs to demand public reparation for private wrongs, and at all times to insist on redress for the injuries done to their subjects.

CHARACTER OF THE GAULS.

For the Gauls, I do not say frequently, but even in everything, they attempt, are carried forward headlong by their passions, and never listen to the dictates of reason.

NOTHING WITHOUT A CAUSE.

For nothing happens without a cause, not even among those events which seem to be most fortuitous.

FEELINGS OF KINGS.

But he recollected, also, that kings entertain feelings neither of enmity nor friendship towards any, but are in both guided solely by what they consider to be their interest.

WRITERS OF HISTORY AND TRAGEDY CONTRASTED.

Consider, then, the peculiar character of history, and what is its proper aim. A historian ought not to try, like the writers of tragedy, to astonish and terrify the reader by extraordinary occurrences, nor yet ought he to draw on his imagination for speeches that might have been delivered, nor events that might have happened; but he should be satisfied to give a simple narrative of the speeches actually delivered, and of the events as they occurred, even though they may contain nothing noble or exciting. But the object and scope of tragedy are altogether different from those of history. It is the business of the latter to strike and fascinate the minds of the audience who are listening by such representations as are barely possible; whereas history professes to deliver lessons, from which all ages may derive improvement, by giving a true and accurate account of the speeches and events as they actually took place. In the one, therefore, the probable, though untrue, may be sufficient to guide us to the end in view, which is the delight and amusement of the audience; but the other addresses itself to a nobler object—the instruction and improvement of the human race, and must have truth as its basis.

SOME END IN ALL HUMAN ACTIONS PROPOSED.

For certainly, it ought never to be imagined, either by the rulers of states, or by those who are

going to give an account of their transactions, that the main object of war is victory, and putting others in subjection to us. No wise man ever makes war merely for the sake of showing his superiority over his neighbors, nor navigates the sea for the sole purpose of passing from place to place. Nor does he practise an art or science merely to acquire a knowledge of it. In all human actions there is always some end in view, either of pleasure, or honor, or advantage, as the result of our labors.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE CAUSE AND BEGINNING OF AN ACT.

These misconceptions arise from our forgetting that there is a difference between the beginning of a war and its cause and pretext, and that the latter of these are always in order antecedent to the former. To speak correctly, the beginning is the first step towards the execution of any project, after it has been resolved on; but the cause is to be sought previous to the resolution. In fact, it is something that first puts the idea into our heads, and that inclines us, after mature deliberation, to carry it into execution.

A STATESMAN.

For a statesman who is ignorant of the way in which events have originated, and who cannot tell from what circumstances they have arisen, may be compared to a physician who fails to make himself acquainted with the causes of those diseases which he is called in to cure. They are both equally useless and worthless; for the latter cannot be supposed to be acquainted with the proper means of restoring the body to health, nor can the former be likely to discover the remedies necessary to get

the better of the evils that are incident to states. For matters of the greatest importance often take their rise from the most trifling incidents; and it is easier to resist the beginnings of evils than to stop them when they have made considerable progress.

HYPOCRISY OF MEN.

For all those with whom we live are like actors on a stage, they assume whatever dress and appearance may suit their present purpose, and they speak and act in strict keeping with this character. In this way we find it difficult to get at their real sentiments, or to bring into clear day the truth which they have hid in a cloud of darkness.

So Shakespeare ("As You Like It," act ii., sc. 1)—

"All the world's a stage,
And all the men and women merely players."

A MAN OF CONCEIT.

Flaminius was well-suited to gain the affections of the populace, and very desirous to stand high in their favor; but he was destitute of all those peculiar talents that are necessary for the conducting of war and actual business, though he entertained a high opinion of his own abilities.

A GENERAL OUGHT TO EXAMINE THE CHARACTER OF HIS OPPONENT.

For every one must confess that there is no greater proof of the abilities of a general than to investigate, with the utmost care, into the character and natural abilities of his opponent.

MEN ASSIMILATED TO THE CLIMATE IN WHICH THEY LIVE.

Looking at their morose and austere manners, which are the necessary consequence of the cold

and harsh climate that overhangs the whole of their province, for men are very much in disposition and feelings according to the nature of the country which they inhabit; nor can we attribute it to any other reason than that in the various nations of the world, so far removed from each other, we find so vast a difference in features, complexion, and customs.

EVERY INJURY IS NOT TO BE SUBMITTED TO.

For it is my opinion that war is no doubt much to be dreaded, but still not to such a degree that we should be willing to submit to every kind of insult rather than engage in it. For why should we value so highly equality of government, liberty of speech, and the glorious name of freedom, if nothing is to be preferred to peace?

PEACE NOT TO BE PREFERRED TO EVERYTHING.

Nor can we approve of what Pindar recommends to his fellow-citizens, when he advises them to place all their happiness in peaceful repose, or, as he expresses it in his poetical language—

“In the radiant splendors of majestic Peace;”

for this plausible and specious advice was found in the end to be not less dishonorable than destructive of the best interests of their country. In short, peace is the greatest of all blessings, if it leaves us in the possession of our honors and lawful rights; but if it is attended with the loss of our national independence, and places a blot on our escutcheon, there is nothing more truly pernicious or fatal to our true interests.

RASH PROJECTS.

So true it is, that to engage in reckless and desperate enterprises is most frequently the way to

reduce men eventually to utter helplessness, and an inability to make resistance.

WHAT THINGS ARE ALLOWABLE IN WAR.

For the laws of war force us to appropriate to ourselves what belongs to our enemy, to destroy their forts and cities, their ships and harbors, the fruits of their country, with the inhabitants, for the purpose of weakening them, and adding strength to ourselves. Yet when men proceed to wreak their fury on senseless objects, whose destruction will neither be of advantage to themselves, nor in the slightest degree disable their opponent from carrying on the war, especially if they burn the temples of the gods, destroy their statues, and waste their ornamental furniture, what else can we say of such proceedings, except that they are the acts of men devoid of all feelings of propriety, and infected by frenzy? For it is in no way the object of war, at least among men who have just notions of their duty, to annihilate and utterly subvert those from whom they may have received provocation, but only to induce them to amend that in which they have acted amiss—not to involve the innocent and guilty in one common ruin, but rather to save them both. We may also observe, that it is the act of a tyrant only, who hates, and is hated by, his subjects, to exact by force and terror a reluctant and unwilling obedience; while a king, distinguished for his kindness and forbearance, gains the affections of his subjects, who learn to look upon him as their friend and benefactor, and to submit with cheerfulness to his commands.

CONQUER ENEMIES BY GENEROSITY.

When we conquer our enemies by kind treatment, and by acts of justice, we are more likely to secure their obedience than by a victory in the field of battle. For in the one case they yield to necessity; in the other, it is their own free choice. Besides, how often is the victory dearly bought, while the conquest of an enemy by affection may be brought about without expense or loss! And what ought to be particularly observed is, that subjects have a right to claim a large share in the success that has been obtained by arms, whereas the prince alone reaps all the glory of a victory which is gained by kind treatment.

FATE OF COURTIER.

For the rapidity with which men, in all the various positions of life, rise and fall is very marked; but this is chiefly seen in those who are attached to the court of kings. For as the counters which are employed in calculation assume their particular value at the will of the man who casts up the account,—sometimes representing a talent, sometimes a farthing,—so courtiers are rich and prosperous, wretched and in poverty, at the nod of their prince.

A WORK BEGUN IS HALF DONE.

For when the ancients said that a work begun was half done, they meant that we ought to take the utmost pains in every undertaking to make a good beginning.

EXECUTION, AND NOT WORDS.

For the truth is, that as nothing is more easy than to bind one's self by words to enter on the

most daring enterprises, so there is nothing more difficult than to bring them to a successful result. For the former only requires that a man should have sufficient confidence; while success depends on qualities which few possess, and is very rarely reached in life.

EFFECTS OF PENURY.

Wherefore, there arose disputes, jealousy, and heart-burnings—a state of things which generally takes place, not only in great empires, but among private individuals, when they are depressed by poverty, and are without the means of carrying their designs into effect.

BEST FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

For that form of government is, no doubt, to be considered the best which is composed of all the three now mentioned—namely, royalty, aristocracy and democracy.

THE USUAL END OF A DEMOCRATICAL GOVERNMENT.

For when the people are accustomed to gain their livelihood without labor, and to live at the expense of others, and when at that moment some bold and enterprising leader makes his appearance, who has been prevented from taking part in public affairs by his poverty, it is then that we see a beautiful example of the character of the multitude: they run together in tumultuous assemblies, and commit all kinds of violence, ending in assassinations, banishments, and seizure of private property, till, being brought at last to a state of savage anarchy, they once more find a master, and submit themselves to arbitrary sway.

HOW EACH FORM OF GOVERNMENT DEGENERATES.

For as rust is the canker of iron, and worms destroy wood, and as these substances, even though they may escape a violent end, at last fall a prey to the decay that is, as it were, natural to them; in the same manner, likewise, in every kind of government there is a particular vice inherent in it, which is attached to its very nature, and which brings it to a close. Thus royalty degenerates into tyranny, aristocracy into obligarchy, and democracy into savage violence and anarchy.

RELIGION USED TO TERRIFY THE VULGAR.

But since the great mass of a people are fickle and inconstant, full of unruly desires, passionate, and reckless of consequences, there is no other way left to curb them than by filling them with horrible imaginings, and by the pageantry of terrifying myths. The ancients, therefore, did not, in my opinion, act unwisely, nor without sufficient reason, when they implanted such notions of the gods, and a belief in punishments in another world; but those of the present day are much rather to be accused of folly, who try to extirpate all such opinions.

GOVERNMENT OF THE MULTITUDE IS THE GREATEST OF ALL EVILS.

For when a state, after having gone through many and great dangers, reaches to the highest pinnacle of power, and reigns with undisputed sway, it cannot be otherwise than that luxury and expensive habits should be developed, and that men should indulge in ambitious projects, and be desirous to acquire the high dignities of state.

And as these evils are apt to increase, the appetite for power grows on what it feeds upon, and men feel ashamed that any of their fellow-citizens should in any way surpass them. Hence arise all those vices which are the natural result of luxury and overbearing arrogance. Then the people step in and give the finishing stroke to the change in the form of government, finding themselves oppressed by the grasping nature of some, and their vanity flattered by the ambitious views of others. For, fired with rage, and giving full play to their evil passions, they are no longer willing to submit to control, and to share with their rulers the administration of affairs, but insist on having everything subject to their authority. The invariable result of such a state of things is, that the government indeed assumes the noblest of all names, that of a free and popular state, but becomes, in truth, the most execrable of all—the dominion of the mob.

SECRECY RECOMMENDED.

Now of all the precautions that have been mentioned, the first that the general of an army ought to attend to is secrecy. He ought to take care that his designs be not disclosed by his countenance betraying the joyful expectation of success, or the sadness of defeat, nor yet by feelings of friendship or affection for those around him. He should communicate his intention to none except to those without whose assistance his plans cannot be carried into execution, and not even to them till the time when their services are required make it necessary that they should be made acquainted with them. Nor should the tongue only be silent, but still more must the mind itself be on its guard; for it has often happened that many,

who have a strict watch over their tongue, have betrayed their intentions by some external signs, and sometimes by their actions.

FAVORITES OF FORTUNE.

These writers, then, have all agreed in representing Scipio as one of those favorites of fortune who bring all their schemes to a happy end by a random thought, and, according to all appearance, by running counter to all the rules of reason. They regard such men as more immediately under the inspiration of Heaven, and more deserving of our admiration, than those who carry out their plans in strict consonance with rational principles, forgetting all the while that in the one case men truly merit praise, while in the other all that can be said of them is that they are fortunate. The most vulgar and commonplace of men may be fortunate, but the others are distinguished for their mental qualities. These are the men who approach nearest to the Divine Being, and are in highest favor with the gods.

DIVINE IMPULSE.

For those who are unable, either from lack of mental capacity, or imperfect knowledge, or indolent habits to discern clearly the right time for action, the causes and probable course of events, are very apt to attribute to the gods and fortune what is after all the result of sound sense and the proper use of our rational faculties.

MANY KNOW TO CONQUER, FEW TO USE THEIR VICTORY WITH ADVANTAGE.

For as we have often observed, it is no doubt a great thing to be successful in our undertakings, and to defeat our enemy in the field of battle; but

it is a proof of greater wisdom, and requires more skill, to make a good use of victory. For many know how to conquer; few are able to use their conquest aright.

POWER OF A MAN IN HIGH AUTHORITY.

Thus an admonition, when it comes at the proper moment, from the lips of a man who enjoys the respect of the world, is often able not only to deter men from the commission of crime, but leads them into the right path. For when the life of a speaker is known to be in unison with his words, it is impossible that his advice should not have the greatest weight.

CHARACTER OF THE MULTITUDE.

The multitude is easily led astray, is moved in every direction by the smallest force, so that the agitations of the mob and the sea have a wonderful resemblance to each other. For as the latter is in its nature calm, and exhibits no appearance of danger to the eye till some violent hurricane agitates its surface, when it becomes fierce as the winds themselves; in the same way the multitude is swayed and guided in its actions according to the temper and character of its leaders and advisers.

AVARICE.

As in the case of those who are afflicted with dropsy, no external application is able to take away or allay the thirst, unless some internal change has been produced by proper remedies; in the same way, also, the desire of gain can never be satiated unless the vicious inclinations of the mind have been got rid of by reason.

FORCE OF TRUTH.

For my own part I am fully persuaded that the most powerful goddess, and one that rules mankind with the most authoritative sway, is Truth. For though she is resisted by all, and oftentimes has drawn up against her the plausibilities of falsehood in the subtlest forms, she triumphs over all opposition. I know not how it is that she, by her own unadorned charms, forces herself into the heart of man. At times her power is instantly felt; at other times, though obscured for awhile, she at last bursts forth in meridian splendor, and conquers by her innate force the falsehood with which she has been oppressed.

WANT OF PERSEVERANCE IN MAN.

For some men, like unskilful jockeys, give up their designs when they have almost reached the goal; while others, on the contrary, obtain a victory over their opponents, by exerting, at the last moment, more vigorous efforts than before.

SELF-ACCUSING CONSCIENCE.

There is no witness so terrible, no accuser so powerful, as conscience, that dwells in the breast of each.

POSIDIPPUS.

FLOURISHED B.C. 289.

POSIDIPPUS, son of Cyniscus of Cassandreia, in Macedon, was one of the chief writers of the New Comedy, and began to exhibit three years after the death of Menander, B.C. 289. According to Suidas, he wrote forty plays.

AN EASY DEATH.

Of the things which man prays to obtain from the gods, he prays for nothing more fervently than an easy hour of death.

SORROW WITH MANY FEET.

Sorrow is an evil with many feet.

DIFFICULT TO ESCAPE SORROW.

It is a difficult matter to escape sorrow; every day brings some new cause of anxiety.

ACQUAINTANCES AND FRIENDS.

By my skill I have got many acquaintances, but by my manners very many friends.

SIMONIDES.

SIMONIDES, lyric poet, was born in the island of Ceos in the year 556 B.C.

LIFE OF MEN HERE BELOW.

The vigor of man is but for a day, and his sorrows are incurable. Labor upon labor comes for a few short years; unavoidable death is impending; for the good and the bad have an equal share in it.

THE WAY TO HADES.

Being of good cheer, proceed creeping along the road to Hades: for it is not of difficult passage nor uneven, nor full of windings, but all very straight and down-hill, and can be gone along with shut eyes.

HOW WE LIVE.

For there is plenty of time to die, but we lead a bad life for a few years.

TO-MORROW.

Being mortal, thou canst not tell what will be to-morrow, nor when thou seest a man happy, how long he will be so, for not so swift is the flight of the wide-winged fly.

THE COWARD.

Death overtakes even the coward.

ADVANTAGE OF SILENCE.

The reward of silence is attended by no danger.

TIME THE TOUCHSTONE OF EVERYTHING.

There is no better touchstone of everything than time, which shows the mind of man in his breast.

SOPHOCLES.

BORN B.C. 495—DIED B.C. 406.

SOPHOCLES, the celebrated tragic poet, was a native of the Attic village of Colonus; born five years before the battle of Marathon, about thirty years younger than Æschylus, and fifteen years older than Euripides. His father's name was Sophilus or Sophillus; but what was his condition in life is a matter of which we have no certain knowledge. At all events, the young Sophocles received an education not inferior to that of the sons of the most distinguished citizens of Athens. His first appearance as a dramatist took place in B.C. 468, when he gained the first prize in competi-

tion with the veteran Æschylus; and from that time Sophocles held the supremacy of the Athenian stage. Family dissensions troubled his last years. One of his sons summoned his father before the magistrates, on the charge that his mind was affected by old age. As his only reply, Sophocles answered, "If I am Sophocles, I am not beside myself; and if I am beside myself, I am not Sophocles." He then read a passage from the magnificent *parodos* to his unpublished play, "Cedipus at Colonus," and when he had finished, the judges dismissed the case, and rebuked the ungrateful prosecutor. The poet was allowed to pass the remainder of his days in peace. He died at the extreme age of ninety.

DOING GOOD SHOULD BE THE TASK OF MAN.

For a man to exert his power in doing good so far as he can is a most glorious task.

THE HONEST CONTRASTED WITH THE BASE.

For it is not just lightly to deem the wicked good or the good wicked. He that throws a faithful friend away, I call as bad as if he threw his life away, which is most dear to him. But in time thou wilt know all this; for time alone shows the honest man; the base thou mightest discover even in one day.

QUICK DECISION IS UNSAFE.

Quick resolves are oft unsafe.

THE WISE GATHER WISDOM FROM THE PAST.

The wise form right judgment of the present from what is past.

THE AGED.

A trifling bend of the scale sends aged frames to rest.

MAN CONTROLLED BY FATE.

For why should man fear, whom the decrees of fate control, while there is no sure foresight of aught? 'Twere best to live at random, even as one could.

LIFE AN AIRY DREAM.

Ye race of mortals, how I deem your life as nothing but an airy dream! For this is the only happiness granted to man, to fancy that he has it, and so fancying to see the glittering vision melt away.

NO ONE TO BE PRONOUNCED HAPPY BEFORE DEATH.

Wherefore since thou art looking out, as being mortal, for thy last day, call no man happy, before he has passed the boundary of life having suffered nothing evil.

Lord Byron says—

“The first dark day of nothingness,
The last of danger and distress.”

GOD SEES THE RIGHTEOUS AND THE WICKED.

Believe that the gods behold the righteous and also the wicked, nor has any impious man ever escaped their eye.

So Jeremiah (xxxii. 19)—“For Thine eyes are open upon all the ways of the sons of men: to give every one according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.”

A GOOD MAN IS HIS OWN FRIEND,

For what good man is not his own friend?

The Psalmist (xlix. 18) says—"As long as thou doest good to thyself, men will speak well of thee."

TOILING FOR A PARENT.

For if any one toil for a parent, it is not fitting to bear remembrance of the toil.

WE KNOW NOT WHAT A DAY MAY BRING FORTH.

For I know that being a man I have no more power to rule the events of to-morrow than thou.

TO LAY MY BONES AMONG YE.

I come to bestow on you as a gift, this my wretched body, not goodly to the sight, but the advantages to be gained from it are of greater consequence than a fair form.

Shakespeare ("Henry VIII.," act iv., sc. 2) says—

"O father abbot,
An old man, broken with the storms of state,
Is come to lay his weary bones among ye;
Give him a little earth for charity."

TIME CHANGES EVERYTHING.

O dearest son of Ægeus, to the gods alone is given exemption from old age and death; but the all-powerful hand of time crumbles everything else to dust. The vigor of the earth, the vigor of the body wastes away; faith dies and perfidy springs up afresh; the gale does not always blow the same to friends among men, nor to state towards state. For what is grateful now becomes hateful, to some at once, to others in distant time; and then delights again.

So 1 Timothy (vi. 16)—"Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto."

WHERE THE CAUSE IS JUST, THE WEAK CONQUERS
THE STRONG.

In a just cause, the weak subdue the strong.

THE DEAD FEEL NO GRIEF.

For rage is not abated but by death; the dead
feel no grief.

THE HUNTER TAKEN IN HIS OWN TOILS.

And know that thou art seized, as thou hast
seized; fortune takes the hunter in his own toils;
for things got by fraud and injustice abide not.

SMALL CIRCUMSTANCES OFTEN IMPORTANT.

Things of trifling appearance are often preg-
nant with high import; a prudent man neglects no
circumstance.

NEVER TO BE BORN, OR EARLY DEATH, IS BEST.

Not to born is best of all; and if one has seen
the light, to go back to the place whence he came,
as quickly as possible, is by far the next best.
For when youth comes, leading a train of idle fol-
lies, he is surrounded by many sorrows. What suf-
fering is not there? Murders, seditions, strife,
fightings, and envy; and loathsome old age is last
seen of all—powerless, unsocial, friendless, when
all ills, worst of ills, dwell together.

MERCY.

Over every work is Mercy, joint assessor to Jove
on his throne.

HIGH OFFICE TRIES A MAN.

It is impossible to penetrate the secret thoughts,
quality, and judgment of man till he is put to

proof by high office and administration of the laws.

REWARDS OFT LEAD TO RUIN.

But gain has oft with treacherous hopes led men to ruin.

GOLD.

For never did such evil institution as money spring up to mortals: it lays waste cities, it drives men far from their homes to roam: it seduces and corrupts the honest mind, turning its virtuous thoughts to deeds of baseness: it has taught men villany and how to perform all impious works.

UNJUST GAIN.

For by unjust gains thou wilt see more sink in ruin than triumph in success.

MAN THE CHIEF OF NATURE'S WORKS.

Many wonderful things appear in nature but nothing more wonderful than man: he sails even through the foaming deep with the wintry south-wind's blast, passing over the roaring billows; he furrows undecaying Earth, supreme of divinities immortal, as seed-times return from year to year, turning up the soil with the horse's aid; ensnaring the feathered tribes that skim the air, he takes them as his prey, and the savage beasts and all the finny race of the deep with line-woven nets, he, all-inventive man; he tames by his skill the tenants of the fields, the mountain-ranging herds; he brings under the neck-encircling yoke the shaggy-maned horse and the reluctant mountain-bull. He hath taught himself language and winged thought, and the customs of civic law, and

to escape the cold and stormy arrows of comfortless frosts; with plans for all things, planless in nothing, meets he the future. But from death alone he finds no refuge, though he has devised remedies against racking diseases. Having a wonderful skill beyond all belief he descends now to evil and again ascends to virtue; observing the laws of the land and the plighted justice of heaven, he rises high in the state: an outcast is he who is dishonorable and audacious; may he, who acts thus, not dwell with me nor rank among my friends.

THE UNWRITTEN LAWS OF THE GODS.

Nor did I deem thy edicts of such force that, mortal as thou art, thou hast the power to overthrow the firm and unwritten laws of the gods. For these are not of to-day nor yesterday, but they live through all ages, and none knows whence they spring.

STERN SPIRITS.

But know in truth that spirits too stern bend most easily; and thou wilt most frequently see the hardest steel forged in the fire till brittle, shivered, and broken; and I have known the most spirited horses brought into obedience by a small bit; for no one ought to be proud who is the slave of others.

KINGS.

Kings are happy in many other things and in this, that they can do and say whatever they please.

THE WRETCHED.

For never does the original vigor of the mind remain to the unfortunate but it is changed.

THE POWER OF GOD.

O Jove, shall man with presumptuous pride control thy power? whom neither enfeebling sleep ever seizes nor the months of the gods that roll on, unconscious of toil: through unwasting time, glorious in might, thou dwellest in heaven's resplendent light. But this law, ordained in ages past, is now, and will be forever, "in all the life of mortals evil in every state her franchise claims."

HOPE.

For hope with flattering dreams is the delight of many, and throws a deceitful illusion over man's light desires; ruin creeps on him unawares before he treads on the treacherous fires. With wisdom some one has uttered an illustrious saying: "that evil is deemed to be good by him whose mind God leads to misery, but that he (God) practises this a short time without destroying such an one."

ANARCHY AND ORDER.

There is no greater ill than anarchy; it destroys cities, lays houses in ruins, and, in the contest of the spear, breaks the ranks; but discipline saves those who obey command; therefore we ought to aid those who govern and never yield to a woman; for better, if we must fall, to fall by men than that we should be declared subject to woman.

WISDOM.

Father, the gods implant wisdom in men, which is the noblest of all treasures.

A FATHER'S GLORY.

What greater ornament is there to a son than a father's glory, or what to a father than a son's honorable conduct?

SELF-CONCEIT.

For whoever thinks that he alone has wisdom or power of speech or judgment such as no other has, such men, when they are known, are found to be empty-brained. But it is no disgrace for even the wise to learn and not obstinately to resist conviction. Thou seest how the trees that bend by the wintry torrents preserve their boughs, while those that resist the blast fall uprooted. And so too the pilot who swells his sails without relaxing upsets his bark and floats with benches turned upside down.

DESPOTISM.

That is not a commonwealth where one man lords it with despotic sway.

LOVE.

O Love! resistless in thy might, thou who triumphest even over gold, making thy couch on youth's soft cheek, who roamest over the deep and in the rural cots—thee none of the immortals shall escape nor any of men, the creatures of a day, but all who feel thee feel madness in their hearts. Thou drawest aside the minds of the virtuous to unjust acts; thou hast raised this storm in hearts by blood allied; desire, lighted up from the eyes of the beauteous bride, gains the victory and sits beside the mighty laws of heaven, for Venus wantons without control.

Scott in his "Lay of the Last Minstrel" (cant. iil. 2) says—

"In peace, Love tunes the shepherd's reed;
In war, he mounts the warrior's steed;
In halls, in gay attire is seen;
In hamlets, dances on the green.
Love rules the court, the camp, the grove,
And men below, and saints above;
For love is heaven and heaven is love."

TO ERR IS HUMAN.

To all of mortals to err is common; but having erred, that man is not unblessed nor unadvised who, having fallen into error, heals the wound, nor perseveres unmoved. It is the obdurate mind that incurs the imputation of folly.

INSTRUCTION.

Most pleasant is instruction when it comes from one who speaks wisely, and with it comes advantage.

THE IMPIOUS.

For the swift-footed vengeance of heaven cuts short the impious.

THE LAWS.

For I fear that to preserve the established laws through life is man's wisest part.

MAN'S LIFE UNCERTAIN.

It is not possible that I should praise or dispraise the life of man, whatever be its state; for Fortune ever raises and casts down the happy and unhappy, and no man can divine the fates to come.

JOYS OF LIFE.

For when man knows no more the joys of life I do not consider him to live, but look upon him as the living dead. Nay, let his house be stored with riches, if thou pleasest, and let him be attended with a monarch's pomp, yet, if heart-felt joys be absent, all the rest I would not purchase with the shadow of smoke when compared with real pleasures.

A CLAMOROUS SORROW.

To me so deep a silence portends some dread event, a clamorous sorrow wastes itself in sound.

SILENCE.

There is something grievous in too great a silence.

CALAMITIES.

Calamities, present to the view, though slight, are poignant.

WISDOM LEADS TO HAPPINESS.

By far the best guide to happiness is wisdom, but irreverence to the gods is unbecoming; the mighty vaunts of pride, paying the penalty of severe affliction, have taught old age, thus humbled, to be wise.

NO MAN BLESSED BEFORE DEATH.

There is an ancient saying, famed among men, that thou canst not judge fully of the life of men, till death hath closed the scene, whether it should be called blest or wretched.

CONSTANT CHANGE IN THE AFFAIRS OF LIFE.

For spangled night does not always spread its shade for mortals, nor do sorrows and wealth remain for aye, but are quickly gone; joy and grief succeed each other.

A YOUNG WOMAN'S LIFE.

Youth feeds on its own flowery pastures, where neither the scorching heat of heaven nor showers nor any gale disturb it, but in pleasures it builds up a life that knows no trouble, till the name of virgin is lost in that of wife, then receiving her share of sorrows in the hours of night, anxious for her husband or children.

IMAGINATION.

It is not the same thing to speak on mere imagination and to affirm a statement as certain.

SPEAK THE WHOLE TRUTH.

But speak the whole truth; since for a freeman to be called a liar is a disgraceful stain on his character.

ANGER.

To those who err in judgment not in will we should be gentle in our anger.

UNCERTAINTY OF LIFE.

So that if man should make account of two days or of more, he is a fool; for to-morrow is not till he has passed the present day without misfortune.

THE DEAD.

I fondly thought of happier days, whilst it denoted nothing else but my death. To the dead there are no toils.

TO DERIDE OUR ENEMIES.

Is that not the most grateful laugh that we indulge against our enemies ?

THE MODEST AND THE ARROGANT.

Seeing that it is so, utter no vain vaunt against the gods nor swell with pride if thou excellest any one in valor or in thy stores of wealth, since a day sinks all human things in darkness and again restores them to light: the gods love the sober-minded and abhor the impious.

THE NOBLE ARE ENVIED.

For he who launches his bolt against noble persons could not miss; but if any were to bring this charge against me he would not be believed: for envy crawls towards the wealthy.

Shakespeare ("Henry VIII.," act i., sc. 2) says—

"If I am traduced by tongues, which neither know
My faculties nor person, yet will be
The chronicles of my doing—let me say,
'Tis but the fate of place."

OUR OWN ILLS.

For to view ills all our own, where no associate shares the deed, racks the heart with deep pangs.

WOMEN.

To women silence gives their proper grace.

GOD ASSIGNS EVERY EVENT.

Each, as the god assigns, or laughs or weeps.

NOTHING IN LIFE CAN GIVE ME JOY.

O darkness, now my light, O Erebus, now sole brightness to me, take me, oh! take me, a wretch

no longer worthy to behold the gods or men,
creatures of a day: me they naught avail.

Shakespeare ("King John," act iii., sc. 4) says—

"There's nothing in the world can make me joy;
Life is as tedious as a twice-told tale
Vexing the dull ear of a drowsy man;
And bitter shame hath spoil'd the world's sweet taste,
That it yields naught but shame and bitterness."

POWER OF THE GODS.

If a god foil him, even the dastard shall escape
the brave man's vengeance.

THE UNHAPPY.

For it is base to wish for length of life when
there is no hope of a change of ills. What pleasure
can day alternating with day present, when it
does nothing but either add or take away from
the necessity of dying? I would not buy at any
price the man who deludes himself with vain
hopes. No, to live with glory or with glory die,
this is the brave man's part.

GRATITUDE.

It becomes a man, if he hath received aught
grateful to his mind, to bear it in remembrance;
it is kindness that gives birth to kindness: when
recollection of a benefit melts from the thought,
that man could never have been of generous
birth.

THE THOUGHTLESSNESS OF CHILDHOOD.

The sweetest life
Consists in feeling nothing.

Gray says—

“Ah! how regardless of their doom
The little victims play!
No sense have they of ills to come,
No care beyond to-day.”

ULCERED WOUNDS.

For it is not the part of the skilful physician to scream a mystic charm when the sore requires the knife.

THE GIFTS OF ENEMIES.

No, true is the popular adage: “The gifts of enemies are no gifts, and fraught with mischief.”

THE WEAKER GIVES WAY TO THE STRONGER.

For all that is terrible and all that is mighty gives way to higher power; for this reason the snow-faced winters yield place to summer with its beauteous fruits, and the dark circle of the night retires that the day with his white steeds may flame forth in orient light; the fury of the fierce blasts lulls and leaves a calm on the tempestuous deep: nay, even all-subduing sleep unbinds his chain nor always holds us captive.

Shakespeare (“Troilus and Cressida,” act i., sc. 3) says

“The heavens themselves, the planets, and this centre
Observe degree, priority, and place,
Insisture, course, proportion, season, form,
Office, and custom, in all line of order.”

SO TO HATE AS TO BE AGAIN A FRIEND.

For this wisdom I have learned, that our enemy is only to be so far hated by us as one who, perchance, may again be our friend, and that I should so far wish to aid my friend as if he were not always to remain so; for the haven of friendship is not always secure to the majority of mankind.

PRIDE.

For the seer declared that unwieldy and senseless strength is wont to sink in ruin, crushed by the offended gods, when man of mortal birth aspires with pride beyond a mortal.

THE IMPOTENT OF MIND.

For the impotent of mind, while they hold in their hands a treasure, know it not till it be snatched from them.

Shakespeare ("Much Ado about Nothing," act iv., sc. 1) says—

"For it so falls out,
That what we have we prize not to the worth
Whiles we enjoy it; but being lacked and lost,
Why then we rack the value, then we find
The virtue that possession would not show us
Whiles it was ours."

GOD DOES EVERYTHING FOR MANKIND.

I then would say that the gods devised both this and everything else always for mankind.

So Psalms (cxlv. 15)—"The eyes of all wait upon Thee; and Thou givest them their meat in due season."

A SEDITIOUS ARMY.

And indeed it is the mark of a bad man when he that is now raised above the common rank scorns to obey his rulers. For in a state never can laws be well enforced where fear does not support their establishment, nor could an army be ruled submissively, if it were not awed by fear and reverence of their chiefs.

IN A JUST CAUSE WE MAY ASSUME CONFIDENCE.

When the cause is just,
An honest pride may be indulged.

Shakespeare ("Henry VI.," part ii., act iii., sc. 2) says—

"Thrice is he armed that hath his quarrel just;
And he but naked, though locked up in steel,
Whose conscience with injustice is corrupted."

A BOASTER.

Not long ago I saw a man of doughty tongue urging his crew to sail while a storm threatened, whose voice thou couldst not hear when he was surrounded by the tempest; but wrapt in his cloak, he suffered every sailor's foot at will to trample on him.

SUNIUM'S MARBLED STEEP.

Oh! could I be where the woody foreland, washed by the wave, beetles o'er the main, beneath Sunium's lofty plain, that I might accost the sacred Athens.

Byron says—

"Place me on Sunium's marbled steep,
Where nothing save the waves and I
May hear our mutual murmurs weep,—
There, swanlike, let me sing and die."

THE PRUDENT MIND PREVAILS.

For 'tis not the high-built frame, the massy-structured limb, that yield most protection, no, the man of prudent mind everywhere prevails. The ox, though vast his bulk, is taught the straight road by a small whip. And thee, I see, this discipline will soon reach, if thy mind acquire not prudence, thou who art confident in insolence, and in tongue unbridled—no more a man, but a mere shadow.

Shakespeare ("Troilus and Cressida," act i., sc. 3) says—

"So that the rain, that batters down the wall,
For the great swing and rudeness of his poise,
They place before the hand that made the engine;
Or those that with the fineness of their souls,
By reason guide his execution."

THE DEAD.

It is unjust to wrong the brave man when he is dead, though hated by thee.

POWER OF GOD IRRESISTIBLE.

When God afflicts him, not even a strong man can escape.

So Isaiah (xxiii. 11)—“The Lord hath given a commandment to destroy the strongholds thereof.”

GOD KNOWS EVEN THE THOUGHTS OF MAN.

I deem that, being God, thou knowest all things, though I be silent.

So John (ii. 25)—“For he knew what was in man.”

TO DIE IS NOT THE GREATEST OF EVILS.

For death is not the most dreadful ill, but when we wish to die, and have not death within our power.

LET THEM LAUGH THAT WIN.

For when we shall have succeeded, then will be our time to rejoice and freely laugh.

THE BASE AND THE GENEROUS.

Since never at any time hath the base perished, but of such the gods take special care, delighting to snatch the crafty and the guileful from Hades, whereas they are always sinking the just and upright in ruin. How shall we account for these things, or how approve them? When I find the gods unjust, how can I praise their heavenly governance?

THE WORSE PREVAIL.

Where the worse has greater power than the good, and all that is good is on the wane, and the coward prevails, such never will I hold dear.

GRATITUDE.

For whoever knows to requite a favor, must be a friend above all price.

“THERE IS A TIDE IN THE AFFAIRS OF MEN.”

Opportunity, be assured, possessing the power over all things, acquires much power in its course.

MISERIES.

For the ills inflicted on men by the gods they must sustain, but those involved in voluntary miseries, as thou art, on these it is not just for any one to bestow either pardon or pity.

BASE DEEDS.

For the mind that, like a parent, gives birth to base deeds, trains up everything else to become base.

PIETY.

For piety dies not with man; live they or die they, it perishes not.

MAN CANNOT ESCAPE THE VENGEANCE OF GOD.

Man cannot escape the vengeance of God.

VENGEANCE.

The bright eye of Vengeance sees and punishes the wicked.

VENGEANCE.

If thou hast committed iniquity, thou must expect to suffer; for Vengeance with its sacred light shines upon thee.

TIME.

Therefore, conceal nothing; for Time, that sees and hears all things, discovers everything.

ONE GOOD TURN ASKS ANOTHER.

Grace begets grace.

SOSICRATES.

SOSICRATES, a comic poet, whose time is unknown.

THE BEAM IN OUR OWN EYE.

We are quick to spy the evil conduct of others; but when we ourselves do the same, we are not aware of it.

SUSARION.

MARRIED LIFE v. BACHELORHOOD.

Hear, ye people! Susarion, son of Philinus, of the village of Tripodiscus in Megaris, says this—
“Women are an evil; but yet, O fellow citizens! we cannot conduct our household affairs without this evil. For to marry and not to marry is equally evil.”

THEOCRITUS.

FLOURISHED ABOUT B.C. 272.

THEOCRITUS, the most famous of all the pastoral poets, a native of Syracuse, was the son of Praxa-

goras and Philinna. He was the contemporary of Aratus, Callimachus, and Nicander. He celebrates the younger Hiero; but his great patron was Ptolemy Philadelphus, king of Egypt, of whom he speaks in terms of high commendation. Of his personal history we know nothing further. He was the creator of bucolic poetry as a branch of Greek, and, through imitators such as Virgil, of Roman literature. His pastorals have furnished models for all succeeding poets, and are remarkable for their simplicity—very often elegant, but sometimes approaching to rudeness. Thirty Idyls bear his name; but it may be doubted whether they were all produced by the same poet.

THE SWEET MURMURING OF THE WOODS.

Sweet is the music, O goat-herd, of yon whispering pine to the fountains, and sweetly, too, is thine, breathed from thy pipe.

Pope (Past. iv. 80) says—

“In some still evening, when the whispering breeze
Pants on the leaves, and dies among the trees.”

And again, in the same Pastoral—

“Thyrsis, the music of that murmuring spring
Is not so mournful as the strains you sing.”

Virgil (Eclog. viii. 22) speaks of the “whispering pines”

THE MURMURING OF THE BROOKLET.

Sweeter, good shepherd, thy song than yonder gliding down of waters from the rock above.

Thus Virgil (Eclog. v. 83)—“Nor am I so much charmed by the music of the waves beat back from the shore, nor of the streamlets as they rush along the rocky valleys.”

So, too, Pope (Past. iv.)—

“Nor rivers winding through the vales below,
So sweetly warble, or so sweetly flow.”

THE WISH OF A LOVER.

Would that I were a humming bee, and could fly to thy cave, creeping through the ivy and the fern, with which thou art covered in. Now I know Cupid a powerful god.

This is like the passage in Psalms (lv. 6)—“Oh that I had wings like a dove! for then would I fly away, and be at rest.” And Pope (Past. iii. 88) says—

“I know thee, Love; on foreign mountains bred.
Wolves gave thee suck, and savage tigers fed.”

FORTUNE CHANGES.

Courage, my friend Battus, to-morrow perhaps will be more favorable; while there is life there is hope, the dead alone are without hope. Jove shines brightly one day, and the next showers down rain.

INJURIES FROM THOSE TO WHOM THOU HAST
BEEN KIND.

See the result of my favors! It is like rearing wolf-whelps or dogs—to rend you for your pains.

So Matthew (vii. 6) says—“Neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.”

A SYLVAN SCENE.

I shall not go thither, here are oaks, here is the galingale, here bees hum sweetly around their hives; here are two springs of coolest water, here birds warble on the trees, nor is there any shade equal to that beside thee, and the pine showers its cones from on high.

It may be compared with the celebrated passage in Shakespeare (“Merchant of Venice,” act v., sc. 1)—

“How sweet the moonlight sleeps upon this bank!
Here will we sit, and let the sounds of music
Creep in our ears; soft stillness and the night
Become the touches of sweet harmony.
Sit, Jessica. Look how the floor of heaven
Is thick inlaid with patines of bright gold.”

THE DOG OF POLYPHEMUS.

Polyphemus! the shepherdess Galatea pelts thy flock with apples, calling thee a rude clown, insensible to love; and thou lookest not at her, pining in wretchedness, but sittest playing sweet strains on thy pipe. See, again she is pelting thy dog, which follows to watch thy sheep. He barks, looking towards the sea; the beauteous waves soft murmuring show him running to and fro along the beach. Take heed lest he leap not on her, coming fresh from the sea-wave, and tear her fair flesh. But the soft morning comes and goes like the dry thistle-down when summer glows. She pursues him who flies her, flies her pursuer, and moves the landmarks of love's boundaries. For, Polyphemus, what is not lovely often seems lovely to the lover.

Virgil (Eclog. iii. 64) says—

“Malo me Galatea petit, lasciva puella.”

“Galatea, the wanton girl, pelts me with apples.”

The coquettishness of woman is well expressed by Terence.

THE MID-DAY HEAT.

Simichidas! whither, pray, hurriest thou at this mid-day time, when even the lizard is sleeping by the dry-stone wall, nor do the crested larks wander about?

Tennyson, in his "CEnone," says—

"Now the noonday quiet holds the hill;
The grasshopper is silent in the grass;
The lizard, with his shadow on the stone,
Rests like a shadow, and the cicala sleeps."

Virgil (Eclog. ii. 9) says—

"Nunc virides etiam occultant spineta lacertos."
"Even now the green lizards hide themselves in the hedges."

THE DELIGHTS OF SUMMER.

And from aloft, overhead, were waving to and fro poplars and elms; and near by, a sacred stream kept murmuring, as it flowed from a cavern of the nymphs; and the bright cicadas on the shady branches kept laboriously chirping; while, in the distance, amidst the thick thorn bushes, the thrush was warbling. Tufted larks and goldfinches were singing, the turtledove was cooing, tawny bees were humming round about the fountains; everything was redolent of golden summer, and redolent of fruit time. Pears, indeed, at our feet, and by our sides, apples were rolling for us in abundance and the boughs hung plentifully, weighed down to the ground, with damsons.

JOY AT THE APPROACH OF A BELOVED.

Everywhere it is spring, everywhere are pastures, and everywhere milkful udders are swelling, and the lambkins are suckled at the approach of my fair maiden; but should she depart, both shepherd and herbage are withered there.

Virgil (Eclog. vii. 59) speaks much in the same way—"At the approach of our Phyllis the whole grove will put forth its leaves, and the æther will send down an abundant shower that gives joy to the fields."

And again (55)—"All things now smile; but if the fair Alexis depart from these mountains, thou wouldst see even the rivers dry up."

Pope (Past. i. 69) says—

“All nature mourns, the skies relent in showers,
Hushed are the birds, and closed the drooping flowers.
If Delia smile, the flowers begin to spring,
The skies to brighten, and the birds to sing.”

THE SONG OF THE BELOVED.

Sweet is thy mouth, and sweetest tones awake
from thy lips, Daphnis. I would rather hear thee
sing than suck the honeycomb.

Plautus (Casin. ii. 8, 21) says—

“How I seem to sip honey because I touch thee!”

This idea is found in the Song of Solomon (iv. 11)—“Thy lips,
O my spouse, drop as the honeycomb; honey and milk are
under thy tongue.”

“BIRDS OF A FEATHER FLOCK TOGETHER.”

Cicala is dear to cicala, ant loves ant, hawks
hawk; but me the muse, and song enchant. Of
this may my house be full; for neither sleep nor
spring suddenly appearing is more sweet, nor
flowers to bees, than the presence of the Muses to
me.

So in Ecclesiasticus (xiii. 6) we find—“All flesh consorteth
according to kind, and a man will cleave to his like; the birds
will return to their like.”

And Pope—

“Not bubbling fountains to the thirsty swain,
Not balmy sleep to laborers faint with pain,
Not showers to larks, or sunshine to the bee,
Are half so charming as thy sight to me.”

REAPERS.

Up with the lark to reap, and cease when it goes
to sleep; rest yourself at mid-day.

Milton (L'Allegro l. 41) says—

“To hear the lark begin his flight,
And startle, singing, the dull night,
From his watchtower in the skies,
Till the dappled dawn doth rise.”

SIMILITUDES.

As much as spring is more delightful than winter, as much as the apple than the sloe, as much as the sheep is more woolly than its lambkin, as much as a virgin is better than a thrice-wed dame, as much as a fawn is nimbler than a calf, as much as a nightingale surpasses in song all feathered kind, so much does thy longed-for presence cheer my mind; to thee I hasten as the travellers to the shady beech, when the fierce sun blazes.

Pope (Past. iii. 43) says—

“ Not bubbling fountains to the thirsty swain,
Not balmy sleep to laborers faint with pain,
Not showers to larks, nor sunshine to the bee,
Are half so charming as thy sight to me.”

Drummond of Hawthornden says—

“ Cool shades to pilgrims, whom hot glances burn,
Are not so pleasing as thy safe return.”

USE OF WEALTH TO THE WISE.

Fools! what boots the gold hid within doors in untold heaps? Not so the truly wise employ their wealth; some give part to their own enjoyment, some to the bard should be assigned, part should be employed to do good to our kinsmen and others of mankind, and even to offer sacrifices to the gods; not to be a bad host, guests should be welcome to come and go whenever they choose, but chiefly to honor the sacred interpreters of the Muses, that you may live to fame when life is done.

THE AVARICIOUS.

It would be as great a toil to count the waves upon the shore, when the wind drives them to land along the surface of the green sea, or to wash the dirty brick clean with violet-colored water, as

to overreach the man who is a slave to avarice. Away with such an one! let him have silver without end, yet always let the desire of a greater store possess him. But I should prefer the respect and esteem of men to myriads of mules and horses.

The idea in Jeremiah (xiii. 23) is somewhat similar—"Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots?"

JOYS OF PEACE.

And, oh! that they might till rich fields, and that unnumbered sheep and fat might bleat cheerily through the plains, and that oxen coming in herds to the stalls should urge on the traveller by twilight. And, oh! that the fallow lands might be broken up for sowing, when the cicada, sitting on his tree, watches the shepherd in the open day, and chirps on the topmost spray; that spiders may draw their fine webs over martial arms, and not even the name of the battle-cry be heard.

Virgil (*Eclog.* ii. 21) says—"A thousand of my lambs wander on the Sicilian mountains."

In Psalms (lxxv. 13) we find—"The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered with corn; they shout for joy, they also sing;" and (cxliv. 13)—"That our garners may be full, affording all manner of store; that our sheep may bring forth thousands and ten thousands in our streets." It is like to Isaiah (ii. 4)—"Nation shall not lift sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

"WHY HOP YE SO, YE HIGH HILLS?"

And Cos, when she beheld him, broke forth with jubilant rapture, and said, touching the infant with fondling hands.

This resembles the idea in Psalms (cxiv. 4)—"The mountains skipped like rams, and the little hills like lambs."

JOY BREAKING FORTH IN DANCING.

And they began to sing, all beating time with cadence with many twinkling feet, and the house was ringing round with hymenean hymn.

In Gray's "Progress of Poesy" we find—

"Thee the voice, the dance, obey,
Tempered to thy warbled lay,
O'er Idalia's velvet green
The rosy-crowned Loves are seen
On Cytherea's day,
With antic sports, and blue-eyed pleasures,
Frisking light in frolic measures;
Now pursuing, now retreating,
Now in circling troops they meet;
To brisk notes in cadence beating,
Glance their many twinkling feet."

CONTRAST OF MORN AND NIGHT.

As rising morn shows its fair countenance against the dusky night,—as the clear spring, when winter's gloom is gone,—so also the golden Helen was wont to shine out amongst us.

So in Solomon's Song (vi. 10) we find—"Who is she that looketh forth as the morning, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners?"

In Campbell's "Gertrude of Wyoming" we have—

"A boy
Led by his dusky guide, like morning brought by night."

And again in Solomon's Song (ii. 11)—"For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone."

"LOVE THAT'S IN HER E'E."

As Helen, in whose eyes the light of love lies.

Burns says—

"The kind love that's in her e'e."

A LOVING PAIR.

Sleep on, happy pair, breathing into each other's bosom love and desire, and forget not to rise towards morning.

In Solomon's Song (viii. 3) we have—"His left hand should be under my head, and his right hand should embrace me. I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, that ye stir not up nor awake my love, until he pleases."

MY LIPS DROP AS THE HONEYCOMB.

From my lips flowed tones more sweet than from a honeycomb.

In Solomon's Song (iv. 11) we find—"Thy lips, O my spouse, drop as the honeycomb; honey and milk are under thy tongue."

NECESSITY THE MOTHER OF INVENTION.

Need alone, Diophantus, imparts the knowledge of arts, and is the mistress of labor, for corroding cares take everything from toiling man, and if soft slumbers refresh his eyelids during the night, suddenly some anxiety stealing in disturbs him.

DREAMS.

For in sleep every dog dreams of food, and I, a fisherman, of fish.

SYLVAN SCENE.

They spying on a mountain a wild wood of various kinds of trees, found under a smooth rock a perennial spring, filled with clear water, and the pebbles below shone like crystal or silver from the depths; near the spot had grown tall pines, poplars, plane trees, cypresses with leafy tops, and odorous flowers, pleasant work for hairy bees, flowers as many as bloom in the meads when spring is ending.

Virgil (*Æn.* i. 164) seems to have copied this—"Then a canopy of woods, checkered with light and shade and gloomy grove, overhangs with awful shade; under the opposite precipitous cliff is a cave in the overhanging rocks; within is a spring of fresh water and seats of natural rock, the abode of the Nymphs."

THE DESPISED LOVER'S RESOLUTION.

Now I go whither thou hast sentenced me, whither, 'tis said, the road is common, where oblivion is the remedy for those that love. But could I drink it all, not even thus could I slake my passionate longing.

Virgil (*Æn.* vi. 714) says—"They drink at the waters of Lethe cups that relieve from care, and causing deep oblivion."

And Song of Solomon (viii. 6) says—"Love is strong as death; jealousy is cruel as the grave; the coals thereof are coals of fire, which hath a most vehement flame. Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it."

BEAUTY FADES.

The rose is beauteous, but time causes it to fade; the violet is fair in spring, and quickly grows out of date; the lily is white, fading when it droops; the snow is white, melting at the very time when it is congealed, and beautiful is the bloom of youth, but it lasts only for a short time.

THE ILLS OF LIFE MUST BE BORNE.

Those ills which fate determines, man must bear.

"THE WOLF SHALL DWELL WITH THE LAMB."

In truth the day will come when the sharp-toothed wolf, having seen the kid in his lair, shall not wish to harm it.

This is very much the same as in Isaiah (xi. 6)—"The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf, and the young lion, and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them."

MAN STANDS IN NEED OF MAN.

For Heaven's eternal wisdom has decreed
That man of man should ever stand in need.

LOVE GIVES VALUE EVEN TO SMALL GIFTS.

For love the smallest gift commends;
All things are valued by our friends.

WINE AND TRUTH.

Wine, dear youth, and truth is the proverb.

THEOGNIS.

BORN ABOUT B.C. 570—DIED ABOUT B.C. 490.

THEOGNIS, a native of Megara, of whose personal history little is known, except that he belonged to the Oligarchical party in the state, and shared its fate. He was a noble by birth, and all his sympathies were with the nobles. In one of the revolutions there was a division of the property of the nobles, in which he lost his all.

LIVE WITH THE GOOD.

From the good thou shalt learn good, but if thou associate with the bad, thou wilt lose even the sense thou possessest.

SPEAK UNRESERVEDLY TO FEW.

Communicate not to all friends alike thy affairs;
few out of a number have a trusty mind.

So Shakespeare ("Henry VIII." act ii. sc. 1)—

"Where you are liberal of your loves and counsels,
Be sure you be not loose; for those you make friends
And give your hearts to, when they once perceive
The least rub in your fortunes, fall away
Like water from ye."

THE HYPOCRITE.

Delude me not with empty phrase, having your mind and heart elsewhere, if thou lovest me, and there be in thee a faithful mind.

So Psalms (xxviii. 3)—“Which speak peace to their neighbor, but mischief is in their hearts;” (lxii. 4)—“They bless with their mouth, but they curse inwardly.”

KINDNESS TO THOSE OF LOW DEGREE.

It is the vainest task to bestow kindness on men of low degree, the same as to sow the hoary-foaming sea: since neither by sowing the deep with scattered grain, wouldst thou reap a rich crop, nor by doing kindness to the mean, wouldst thou be repaid. For the mean have an insatiate spirit; if thou refusest a request, gratitude for all former favors vanishes. While gallant hearts enjoy in the highest degree kindnesses, retaining the memory of good deeds and gratitude in after times.

So Shakespeare (“Timon of Athens,” act iii. sc. 1)—

“Thou disease of a friend, and not himself!
Has friendship such a faint and milky heart,
It turns in less than two nights? This slave,
Unto his honor has my lord’s meat in him.”

TRENCH-FRIENDS.

Many are trencher-friends, few adhere to thee in matters of difficulty. Nothing is harder than to detect a soul of base alloy, O Cyrnus, and nothing of more value than caution. The loss of alloyed gold and silver may be borne; it is easy for a shrewd intellect to discover its real quality; but if a friend’s heart be secretly untrue, and a treacherous heart be within him, this is the falsest thing that God has made for man, and this is hardest of all to discover. For thou canst not

know man's mind, nor woman's either, before thou hast proved it, like as of a beast of burden.

So Shakespeare ("Timon," act iii. sc. 6)—

"Live loath'd, and long,
Most smiling, smooth, detested parasites;
You fools of fortune, trencher-friends, time's flies."

VAIN THOUGHTS OF MEN.

We men have vain thoughts, knowing nothing; while the gods accomplish all things after their own mind.

So Psalms (xciv. 11)—"The Lord knoweth the thoughts of man, that they are vanity;" (xxxix. 6)—"Man walketh in a vain show."

A LITTLE GOTTEN HONESTLY.

Prefer to live piously on small means than to be rich on what has been gotten unjustly. Every virtue is included in the idea of justice, as every just man is good. Fortune gives wealth indeed to the worst of men, but virtue is found in few.

So Proverbs (xv. 16)—"Better is little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble therewith;" and Psalms (xxxvii. 14)—"A little that a righteous man hath is better than the riches of many wicked."

A BEGGAR ON HORSEBACK.

Wealth nurses insolence, when it comes to a man of paltry spirit, and whose mind is not sound.

So Shakespeare ("Henry VI." part ii. act ii. sc. 4)—

"Beggars mounted run their horse to death."

"BOAST NOT THYSELF OF TO-MORROW."

For no man knows what a night or a day may bring forth.

So Proverbs (xxvii. 1)—"Boast not thyself to-morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth."

LUST OF RICHES.

There is no limit to riches among men; for those of us who have most, strive after twice as much. Who could satisfy all? Riches truly to mortals become folly.

So Ecclesiastes (v. 10)—“He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase;” and Psalms (xxxix. 6)—“Surely they are disquieted in vain; he heapeth up riches, and knoweth not who shall gather them.”

THE LION.

The lion does not always feast on flesh, but, strong though he be, anxiety for food seizes him.

So Psalms (civ. 21)—“The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their meat from God.”

“THE RACE IS NOT TO THE SWIFT.”

Even the slow man, if possessed of wisdom, has overtaken the swift in the pursuit, with the aid of the straightforward justice of the immortal gods.

So Ecclesiastes (ix. 11)—“I returned and saw under the sun that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong.”

RESTRAIN THY TONGUE.

Restrain thyself; let honeyed words ever attend thy tongue; the heart indeed of men of low degree is more sharp than is right.

So Proverbs (xiii. 3)—“He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life;” (xxxi. 6)—“In her tongue is the law of kindness;” and Shakespeare (“Hamlet,” act i. sc. 3)—

“Give thy thoughts no tongue, nor any unproportioned thought his act.”

THE RIGHTEOUS AND WICKED TREATED EQUALLY.

How, pray, son of Saturn, canst thou reconcile it to thy sense of right and wrong to treat the wicked and the good in the same way, whether

thou turnest thy attention to the wise or whether to the insolence of men, who yield to unjust deeds ?

So Psalms (lxxiii. 3-5, 11-12)—“For I was envious at the foolish, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. For there are no bands in their death; but their strength is firm. They are not in trouble as other men; neither are they plagued like other men. And they say, How doth God know? and is there knowledge in the Most High? Behold, these are the ungodly, who prosper in the world; they increase in riches.”

JUDICIAL BLINDNESS.

Fortune is wont to make him regard easily what is bad to be good and what is good to be bad.

So Isaiah (v. 20)—“Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!”

“KEEP THE DOOR OF MY LIPS.”

Many men have not well-fitting doors on their tongues, and they care for many things, which it would be better to leave alone.

So Psalms (cxli. 3)—“Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips.”

BETTER NOT TO BE BORN.

Of all things, it is best for men not to be born, nor to see the rays of the bright sun; the next best thing is speedily to die and lie beneath a load of earth.

“GRAPES OF THORNS.”

For neither roses nor the hyacinth spring from the squill, no, nor ever a high-spirited child from a bond-woman.

So Matthew (vii. 16)—“Do men gather grapes of thorns or figs of thistles?” and Horace (Od. iv. 4, 81)—

“Nor do fierce eagles produce the timorous dove.”

RICHES NOT CARRIED TO THE GRAVE.

For no one descends to Hades with his immense wealth, nor can he by paying ransom escape death, or heavy diseases, or wretched old age creeping upon him.

So Psalms (xlix. 17)—“For when he dieth he shall carry nothing away; his glory shall not descend after him.”

THE PROSPERITY OF THE UNGODLY.

Should a wicked and infatuated wretch, who cares for neither God nor man, be glutted with wealth, while the good are destroyed, ground down by pinching poverty?

So Psalms (lxxiii. 3-5, 11-12)—“For I was envious at the foolish, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. For there are no bands in their death; but their strength is firm. They are not in trouble as other men; neither are they plagued like other men. And they say, How doth God know? and is there knowledge in the Most High? Behold, these are the ungodly, who prosper in the world; they increase in riches.”

YOUTH PASSES QUICKLY.

For bright youth passes quickly as thought, nor is the speed of coursers fleeter.

“THE GODLY MAN CEASETH.”

Just oaths are no longer in existence among men, neither does any one reverence the immortal gods. The race of godly men has vanished, nor do they any longer know laws; no, nor holy lives.

So Psalms (xii. 1)—“Help, Lord; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men.”

“WEEP WITH THEM THAT WEEP.”

Never let us sit down and laugh beside those who weep, O Cynus, taking pleasure in our own advantages.

So Romans (xii. 15)—“Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.”

THUCYDIDES.

BORN B.C. 471—WAS ALIVE B.C. 403.

THUCYDIDES, the celebrated historian of Athens, was the son of Olorus and Hegesipyle, through whom he claimed kindred with the family of Miltiades, the conqueror of Marathon. He is supposed to have been a pupil of Antiphon, of Rhamnus, and of Anaxagoras. At all events, as he was living in the centre of Greek civilization, he would, no doubt, receive all the advantages which Athens, then in the acme of its intellectual fame, was able to bestow. We have no trustworthy evidence that he distinguished himself as an orator; but he was in command of a small squadron at Thasos, on his way to the relief of Amphipolis, B.C. 424, then besieged by the Lacedæmonians. He arrived too late at the scene of action; and, in consequence of this failure, he became an exile, probably to avoid a severer punishment. He lived twenty years in exile, and returned to Athens about the time when Thrasybulus freed Athens. He is said to have been assassinated a short time after his return. The subject of his great work is the Peloponnesian war, which lasted from B.C. 431 to B.C. 404.

A POSSESSION FOR ALL TIMES.

My history is presented to the public as a possession for all times, and not merely as a rhetorical display to catch the applause of my contemporaries.

THE BEST SECURITY OF POWER.

For power is more firmly secured by treating our equals with justice than if, elated by present prosperity, we attempt to enlarge it at every risk.

EXPOSTULATION WITH FRIENDS.

Expostulation is just towards friends who have failed in their duty; accusation is to be used against enemies guilty of injustice.

ACTS OF INJUSTICE, AND ACTS OF VIOLENCE.

Mankind, as it seems, are more apt to resent acts of injustice than acts of violence. Those that are inflicted by equals are regarded as the result of a grasping and rapacious disposition; those coming from superiors are submitted to as a matter of necessity.

THE PRESENT IS GRIEVOUS TO SUBJECTS. . . .

The present is always burdensome to subjects.

THE SUCCESS OF WAR DEPENDS VERY MUCH ON MONEY.

The success of war is not so much dependent on arms, as on the possession of money, by means of which arms are rendered serviceable, and more particularly so when a military power is fighting with a naval.

WAR SOMETIMES IS TO BE PREFERRED TO
PEACE.

It is, indeed, the part of the wise, so long as they are not injured, to be lovers of peace. But it is the part of the brave, if they are injured, to give up the enjoyments of peace, that they may enter upon war, and, as soon as they are successful, to be ready to sheathe their swords. Thus, they ought never to allow themselves to be too much elated by military success, nor yet to be so fond of peace as to submit to insult.

DIFFERENCE OF RESULTS IN PLANS.

For many enterprises, that have been badly planned, have come to a successful issue, from the thoughtless imprudence of those against whom they were directed; and a still greater number, that have appeared to be entering on the path of victory, have come to a disastrous end. This arises from the very different spirit with which we devise a scheme, and put it into execution. In council, we consult in the utmost security; in execution, we fail from being surrounded with dangers.

THE POOR MORE WILLING TO GIVE THE SERVICES
OF THEIR BODIES THAN THEIR MONEY.

Accumulated wealth is a far surer support of war than forced contributions from unwilling citizens. The poor, who gain their livelihood by the sweat of their brow, are more willing to give the services of their body in defence of their country, than to contribute from their contracted means. The former, though at some risk, they think it possible may survive the crisis; while the latter, they are certain will be gone forever, especially

if the war should be protracted beyond expectations—a very likely event.

HOW MARITIME SUPREMACY IS TO BE ATTAINED.

Seamanship, and a knowledge of maritime affairs, is as much a science as any other art. It cannot be learned by snatches, nor can a knowledge of it be acquired except by a persisting and uninterrupted devotion to its study.

UNCERTAINTY OF WAR.

For the events of war are ever changing, and fierce attacks are frequently made by small numbers with great fury. Often, too, an inferior body, by cautious measures, have defeated a superior force, whom contempt of their opponent had led to neglect proper precautions. In an enemy's country it is always the duty of soldiers to have their minds girt up for action, and looking around with circumspection, to have their arms ready to resist. Thus they will find themselves best able to rush forward to the attack, and least likely to suffer from the attacks of their opponents.

DISCIPLINE.

The noblest sight, and surest defence for a numerous army, is to observe strict discipline and undeviating obedience to their officers.

ENVY.

For the praises bestowed upon others are only to be endured so long as men imagine that they are able to perform the actions which they hear others to have done; they envy whatever they consider to be beyond their power, and are unwilling to believe in its truth.

EQUALITY.

For we possess a form of government of such excellence, that it gives us no reason to envy the laws of our neighbors. We often serve as a pattern to others: but we have never found it necessary to follow their example. It is called a popular government, because its object is not to favor the interests of the few, but of the greater number. In private disputes we are all equal in the eye of the law; and, in regard to the honors of the state, we rise according to merit, and not because we belong to a particular class. Though we are poor, if we are able to serve our country by our talents, obscurity of birth is no obstacle. We carry on public affairs with gentlemanly feeling, having no unworthy suspicions of each other in the daily affairs of life, nor indulging in angry passion towards our neighbor for pursuing his own course, nor yet putting on that look of displeasure, which pains, though it can do nothing more. Conversing with the kindest feeling towards each other in private society, above all things we avoid to break the enactments of the state, reverencing the magistrates, and obeying the laws—those more particularly that have been enacted for the protection of the injured, as well as those which, though they are unwritten, bring sure disgrace on the transgressors. In addition to all this, in order that our minds might unbend occasionally from the dull routine of business, we have appointed numerous games and sacred festivals throughout the year, performed with a certain solemn pomp and elegance, so that the charms of such daily sights may drive away melancholy. The grandeur of this city causes the produce of the whole world to be imported into it, so that we

enjoy not only the delicacies peculiar to our own country, but also those that come from other lands.

CHARACTER OF BRITISH NATION FORESHADOWED.

In military tactics we feel superior to our opponents; for we throw open our state to all who choose to resort to it; nor do we ever drive any stranger from our shores who comes for instruction, or from curiosity, making no concealment of anything, lest our enemies should derive some benefit. We trust not so much to being thoroughly prepared, or to cunning devices, as to our own innate courage. In training, there are some people who are, from their youth, inured by laborious exercise to submit to toil; but we, leading an easy and luxurious life, are ready at any moment to face dangers with the same recklessness as they.

POVERTY.

An avowal of poverty is a disgrace to no man; to make no effort to escape from it is indeed disgraceful.

THE BRITISH NATION FORESHADOWED IN THE ATHENIAN.

For we are the only people who think him that does not take part in public affairs to be not merely lazy, but good for nothing. Besides, we pass the soundest judgments, and have an intuitive knowledge of what is likely to happen; never considering that discussion of a subject stands in the way of its execution, but rather that we suffer from not having duly examined the question before we proceed to carry it out. It is in this that we show our distinguishing excellence—that we are bold as lions in the hour of action, and yet can

calmly deliberate on the expediency of our measures. The courage of others is the consequence of ignorance; caution makes them cowards. But those, undoubtedly, must be regarded to be the bravest who, having the most acute perception of the sufferings of war and the sweets of peace, are yet not in the least prevented from facing danger.

ADVERSITY.

For it is not those who are reduced to misery, and who have no hopes of bettering their fortunes, that ought to be ready to shed their blood in defence of their country; but much more those who, if they live long enough, will find a change from their present prosperity difficult to be borne, and to whom adversity, therefore, is a serious calamity. For hard times, after a life of luxurious ease, are felt more keenly by a man of spirit than death, which leaves us without feeling; so that the stroke is met with fortitude, and reaches us in the midst of public prosperity.

PRUDENT MEASURES.

For boasting and bravado may exist in the breast even of the coward, if he is successful through a mere lucky hit; but a just contempt of an enemy can alone arise in those who feel that they are superior to their opponent by the prudence of their measures, as in the case with us. And even when the parties are pretty equally matched in other respects, the very consciousness of this superiority in prudence gives an additional stimulus to courage; and the man who is in difficulties trusts less to hopes, which may deceive him, than to a wise judgment, the foresight of which enables him to guard against disappointments.

EVILS INFLICTED BY HEAVEN.

The evils inflicted by Heaven ought to be borne with patient resignation, and the evils inflicted by enemies with manly fortitude.

MEN OF MERIT SUBJECT TO ENVY.

To be an object of hatred and aversion to their contemporaries has been the usual fate of all those whose merit has raised them above the common level. The man who submits to the shafts of envy for the sake of noble objects, pursues a judicious course for his own lasting fame. Hatred dies with its object, while merit soon breaks forth in full splendor, and his glory is handed down to posterity in never-dying strains.

THE DULLER PART OF MANKIND.

The duller part of mankind, in general, hold the reins of government with a steadier hand than your men of wit and vivacity. The latter are anxious to appear wiser than the laws. In every discussion about the public good they look merely to victory, as if they would have no other opportunity to show off their superior talents. In this way they are very apt to destroy the proper balance of the constitution. The former, who have no confidence in their own abilities, are quite willing to confess that they are not above the laws of their country, though they are unable to cope with the specious statements of the showy orator. Therefore, they are abler administrators of public affairs; because they are good judges of what is equitable, though inferior in debate.

THE EFFECT OF PROSPERITY.

It is the usual result of a sudden and unexpected gleam of prosperity on a people, that it makes

them vainglorious and arrogant. Good fortune, attained as a consequence of judicious measures, is more likely to last than what bursts upon us at once. And, to conclude, men are much more dexterous in warding off adversity than in preserving prosperity.

PECULIAR TEMPER OF MAN.

For so remarkably perverse is the nature of man, that he despises whoever courts him, and admires whoever will not bend before him.

ALL MEN ARE SINNERS.

The whole of mankind, whether individuals or communities, are by nature liable to sin; and there is no law that can ever prevent this, since men have had recourse to all kinds of punishment without effect, adding to their severity, if by any means they might restrain the outrages of the wicked.

THE INCENTIVES OF HOPE AND LOVE.

The greatest stimuli in every undertaking are hope and ambition; the one points the way, the other follows closely on its heels; the one devises the mode in which it may be accomplished, the other suggests the aid to be got from Fortune. These two principles are the cause of all our evils; and, though unseen, are much stronger than the terror which wasteth by noonday. And then, in addition to these, Fortune herself is active in urging men to the encountering of dangers; for, presenting herself suddenly before them, she incites even the faint-hearted to make an effort. And, above all, this is the case with communities, which contend for matters of great concernment, such as liberty, or the dominion over others. In

the general ardor each individual feels himself roused to put forth his strength to the utmost.

CONTRAST OF TIMES OF PEACE AND WAR.

In the piping times of peace and prosperity, communities, as well as individuals, have their feelings as well as nature less excited, because they are not under the compulsion of stern necessities. Whereas war, which strips them of their daily food, is a rough teacher, and renders their passions in accordance with their present condition.

WORDS LOSE THEIR SIGNIFICANCE.

They changed the common signification of words at their pleasure, and distorted them, in order to palliate their actions. For what was once thought senseless audacity began to be esteemed contempt of danger in defence of a friend; prudent caution to be plausible cowardice; bashfulness to be the pretext for sloth; and the being wary in everything as only another word for laziness. A hot, fiery temper was looked upon as the exhibition of a manly character; circumspect and calm deliberation to be a specious pretext for intended knavery. He who was subject to gusts of passion was always considered trustworthy; who presumed to contradict was ever the object of suspicion. He who succeeded in a roguish scheme was wise, but he who anticipated it in others was still a more able genius; but he whose foresight enabled him to be above all such proceedings was looked upon as one who put an end to friendship, and was awed by his enemies. In short, the highest praise was considered to be due to him who forestalled his neighbor in doing mischief, or who egged on another to it.

VILLAINS.

The number of villains is large in this world; and they are more successful in acquiring a name for adroitness than their dupes are for goodness. The latter cannot refrain from blushing; the former rejoice in their iniquities.

PRECEDENTS.

Men are foolish enough, in their desire for vengeance, to make precedents against themselves by infringing those laws which are the common protection of mankind, and from which alone they can expect aid if they fall into difficulties.

MAKE ALLOWANCE FOR CHANCE IN EVERYTHING.

It is the part of the wise, in their estimates of success, to make due allowance for the effects of chance. These men will be more likely to bear the frowns of Fortune with equanimity; and will be prepared to think that war does not invariably take the direction which we wish to give it, but that to which Fortune leads us. And men of this character have little chance of failing in their schemes, or of having the pedestal of their fortune thrown down, because they are too much puffed up by present appearances.

CALAMITIES OF WAR.

And, in regard to the calamities of war, what need is there to relate, in minute detail, all that happens in the ears of men who have only too much experience of them? No one ever plunges headlong into these from ignorance of what will follow; nor yet, when they expect to gratify their ambitious views, are they ever deterred by fear. In the latter case, the expectations of what is to be gained are thought to overbalance the dangers

that are likely to accrue; and the former prefer to undergo any danger than to suffer diminution of their present possessions. If neither party seem likely to carry out their views, then exhortations to mutual agreement seem highly proper.

REVENGE NOT CERTAIN.

Vengeance does not necessarily follow because a man has sustained an injury; nor is power sure of its end because it is full of sanguine expectations. Fortune hangs up, in general, her unsteady balance, which, while little dependence can be placed upon it, yet gives us most useful hints. For, as we have thus a wholesome dread of each other, we advance to the contest with thoughtful premeditation.

MIGHT MAKES RIGHT.

For it is more disgraceful for men in high office to improve their private fortune by specious fraud than by open violence. Might makes right in the one case; while, in the other, man throws over his proceedings the cloak of despicable cunning.

HOW A STATE CAN PRESERVE ITSELF FREE.

For it is a maxim allowed, that no state can possibly preserve itself free, unless it be a match for neighboring powers.

THE SANGUINE NATURE OF HOPE.

It is the usual way of mankind blindly to indulge in sanguine hopes of gaining a favorite object, and to throw aside with despotic scorn whatever has the appearance of running counter to their wishes.

HOPE.

Hope, a solace in dangerous emergencies, is not always fatal to those who indulge in its flattering tales, if they are in a position to bear a disappointment. By those, however, who place their all on the hazard of a cast, its delusions (for hope is extravagant in its nature) are then only known by experience, when it is no longer possible to guard against its snares.

MEN HAVE RECOURSE TO DIVINATIONS IN CALAMITY.

Be not like the mob of mankind, who, though they might be saved by human exertions, as soon as faint hopes of safety are visible, have recourse to others of a darker cast,—to necromancy, fortune-tellers, and such foolish courses as hope suggests to draw them on to destruction.

DISHONOR.

For you will be no longer controlled by that sense of shame which leads men to ruin when dishonor stares them in the face, and danger presses them from behind. For many, though they see plainly enough into what evils they are going to plunge, yet, to avoid the imputation of dishonor,—so powerful is the force of one bewitching sound!—feel themselves obliged to yield to a course of which their better reason may disapprove, and rush wilfully into irremediable calamities, and incur a more shameful weight of dishonor through their own mad obstinacy than Fortune would have awarded them.

MEN WHO MAINTAIN THEMSELVES IN CREDIT.

For those are the men to maintain themselves with credit in the world, who never suffer their

equals to insult them, who show proper respect to their superiors, and act with thoughtful kindness to their inferiors.

EVERYTHING UNKNOWN IS MAGNIFIED.

For we all know that things placed at the greatest distance from us, as well as those whose character we have never known by experience, are most apt to excite our admiration.

SUCCESS.

You are convinced by experience that very few things are brought to a successful issue by impetuous desire, but most by calm and prudent forethought.

MONEY THE SINEWS OF WAR.

For they are possessed of plenty of money, by means of which war and every other human enterprise are easily brought to a successful end.

THE ASSAILANT IS MOST TO BE DREADED.

The opinions of men depend very much on rumors; and they have a greater dread of an enemy who proclaims himself ready to begin the attack, than of one who merely professes his intention to defend himself against assaults, as they think that there will be then only an equality of danger.

THE GOVERNMENT OF AN OLIGARCHY AND DEMOCRACY.

It may, perhaps, be said that a democracy is a form of government repugnant to the dictates of wisdom and justice; that those who are the wealthiest are more likely to conduct public affairs successfully. To this I answer, in the first place, that by the word people is meant a whole

community, including every individual; whereas an oligarchy is only a small portion of the people: in the next place, that the wealthy are, no doubt, the best guardians of the public treasure, and that men of prudence and forethought are the best advisers in public matters; but the people in the mass are, after listening to a discussion, the best judges of measures. And that these different ranks of citizens are thus, in a democracy, able, both as a part and as a whole, to enjoy an equality of privilege. But, on the other hand, an oligarchy compels the great mass of the people to share in the dangers of the state while it not only monopolizes most of the advantages, but actually takes to itself everything on which it can lay its hand.

DANGER IN MULTITUDE OF COUNSELLORS.

A multitude of generals and many counsellors are very injurious.

REVENGE IS SWEET.

Nay more, we have the best opportunity of revenging ourselves on a detested enemy, which, according to the proverb, is the most pleasant thing in the world.

HISTORY.

History is philosophy teaching by examples.

TIMOCLES.

FLOURISHED ABOUT B.C. 340.

TIMOCLES, an Athenian comic poet of the middle comedy, who flourished about B.C. 340. Suidas gives the titles of nineteen dramas.

POVERTY.

For poverty sometimes forces many to do, contrary to their natural disposition, things unworthy of them.

POVERTY.

Poverty sometimes forces many to do acts unworthy of them, contrary to their natural disposition.

TYRTÆUS.

FLOURISHED ABOUT B.C. 660.

TYRTÆUS, son of Archembrotus, is said to have been by birth an Athenian, but became a citizen of Lacedæmon. There is a story that he was a lame schoolmaster, of low family and reputation, whom the Athenians, when applied to by the Lacedæmonians, in accordance with the oracle, purposely sent as the most inefficient leader they could select; but it turned out that his poetry achieved that victory which his physical condition seemed to forbid his aspiring.

TO DIE FOR ONE'S COUNTRY.

It is honorable for a brave man to die, having fallen in front of the ranks, fighting for his fatherland.

COWARDICE.

It is not in the force of words to paint the varied ills which befall a man if he has been actuated by cowardice.

THE BRAVE MAN.

This is virtue—this the noblest meed among men, and the best for a young man to carry off—this is a common good to a city and all its people, namely, whoever, standing firm, is foremost of the embattled train, and is altogether forgetful of base flight, when he has staked his life and firm spirit, but has the courage to die beside his neighbors. Such a man is a brave warrior.

THE DEATH OF THE BRAVE.

He, having fallen amidst the foremost, loses his life, bringing glory to his city, people, and father, pierced in many places through breast and bossed shield, and through his armor in front. Young and old alike lament him with sad regret. His tomb and children are famed among men,—children's children, and his whole descendants after him. Never does his fair fame or name perish; but though he be under the ground, he becomes immortal. Whoever acting nobly, fighting for country and children, impetuous Ares shall have destroyed.

XENOPHON.

BORN PROBABLY BEFORE B.C. 444—WAS ALIVE
B.C. 357.

XENOPHON, the illustrious commander, historian, and philosopher, was the son of Gryllus, an Athenian. He was the pupil of Socrates, and made rapid progress in that moral wisdom for which his master was so eminent. He joined the army of Cyrus the younger, in his expedition against his brother Artaxerxes Mnemon, king of

Persia; and when that enterprise proved unfortunate, he took command of the Greek troops, and assisted, by his prudence and skill, in bringing them safely back to Greece. When Socrates was put to death, B.C. 399, we find that Xenophon was shortly after obliged to leave Athens, and took refuge, with his family, at Scillus, under the protection of the Lacedæmonians. Here he spent twenty years in exile, hunting, writing, and entertaining his friends. After this long residence, he was compelled by the Eleans to leave Scillus, and is said to have retired to Corinth. Of the historical works of Xenophon, the "*Anabasis*," or the History of the Expedition of the Younger Cyrus, and of the Retreat of the Greeks who formed part of his army, has immortalized his name.

THE GODS OMNISCIENT.

Socrates thought that the gods knew all things, both what is said, what is done, and what is meditated in silence, are everywhere present, and give warnings to men of everything human.

So 1 John (iii. 20)—"God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things."

EVIL COMMUNICATIONS.

Wherefore fathers keep their sons, even though they be virtuous, from the society of the wicked, as they consider association with the virtuous as likely to incline them to virtue, and with the wicked as sure to prove its destruction.

The truth of this is borne witness to by one of the poets (*Theognis* v. 35)—"From every good man thou wilt learn what is good; but if thou associatest with the wicked, thou wilt lose the sense that is in thee." And another poet says—"A good man is at one time good, and at another bad."

GOD KNOWS BEST WHAT IS GOOD FOR MAN.

Socrates prayed to the gods simply that they would give him what was good, inasmuch as the gods knew best what things are good for man. Those who prayed for gold, or silver, or high power, or anything of that kind, he regarded as doing the same as if they prayed that they might play at dice, or fight, or anything of that kind, of which the result was dependent on chance.

So Matt. (vi. 7)—“But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do; for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.”

“THE POOR WIDOW’S MITE.”

When Socrates presented small sacrifices from his small means, he considered that he was not at all inferior in merit to those who offered many and great sacrifices from ample and abundant means; for he said that it was not becoming for the gods to delight in large rather than in small sacrifices.

WHO ARE MOST RESPECTFUL TO THE GODS.

Dost thou not see that the oldest and wisest of human communities and cities and nations show most respect to the gods, and that the wisest age of man is most careful of the worship of the gods?

GOD OMNIPRESENT AND OMNISCIENT.

The Divinity is so great, and of such a character, that He both sees and hears all things, is everywhere present, and attends to all things at once.

So Psalms (ciii. 25)—“Of old hast Thou laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the work of Thy hands. They shall perish, but Thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt Thou change them, and they shall be changed. But Thou art the same, and Thy years shall have no end.”

THE BEST SAUCE.

Dost thou not know that he who eats with most pleasure is he who least requires sauce, and that he who drinks with the greatest pleasure is he who least desires other drink than that which he has ?

DIVINE NATURE IS PERFECTION.

I think to want nothing is to resemble the gods, and to want as little as possible is to make the nearest approach to the gods; that the Divine nature is perfection, and that to be nearest to the Divine nature is to be nearest to perfection.

So Psalms (l. 9)—“I will take no bullock out of thy house, nor he-goats out of thy folds: for every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills.”

HONOR GOD.

If thou wishest the gods to be propitious to thee, thou must honor the gods.

So Psalms (cxv. 18)—“The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon Him, that all that call upon Him in truth.”

GOD GRANTS NOTHING WITHOUT LABOR.

The gods give nothing really good and beautiful without labor and diligence.

So Genesis (iii. 19)—“In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread.”

WHAT BENEFITS CHILDREN RECEIVE FROM THEIR PARENTS.

Whom then, said Socrates, can we find receiving greater advantages from any persons than from their parents? Children, whom their parents have brought from non-existence into existence, to behold so many beautiful objects, and to partake of so many blessings which are granted by the

gods to men: blessings which appear to us so inestimable that we shrink in the highest degree from abandoning them.

THE LOW-MINDED AND THE HONORABLE.

The low-minded thou canst not gain otherwise than by giving them something; whereas the honorable and the good thou mayest best attract by treating them in a kindly manner.

WE ARE MEMBERS OF ONE BODY TO ASSIST EACH OTHER.

At present, Socrates said, you are in the same state as if the two hands, which the gods have made to assist each other, should neglect their duty, and begin to impede each other. Would it not be a great folly and misfortune to use for our hurt what was intended for our benefit?

THE QUALIFICATIONS OF A GENERAL.

But, said Socrates, this is much the best part of the qualifications of a general: for a general must be skilful in preparing what is necessary for war, furnishing provisions for his soldiers; a man of mechanical contrivance and activity, careful, persevering, sagacious, affectionate, and, at the same time, severe; open, yet crafty; careful of his own, yet ready to steal from others; profuse, yet rapacious; lavish of presents, yet eager to acquire money; cautious, yet enterprising,—and many other qualities, both natural and acquired, which he who would fill the office of general well, must possess.

BEST MEN MOST PIOUS BEFORE GOD.

Socrates said that the best men were the most observant of the worship of the gods.

So Joshua (xxiv. 15)—“As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

THE LOOKS AND GESTURES SHOW THE CHARACTER.

Surely, also, nobleness and generosity of disposition, lowness of mind and illiberality, modesty and intelligence, insolence and stupidity, are shown both in the countenance and gestures of men, whether they are standing or moving.

GOD SHOWS HIMSELF BY HIS WORKS.

He who arranges and holds together the whole universe, in which are all things beautiful and good, and who preserves it always unimpaired, undisordered, and undecaying, obeying His will swifter than thought, and without irregularity, is Himself manifested only in the performance of His mighty works, but is invisible to us while He is regulating them.

THE SOUL OF MAN.

The soul of man is part of the Divinity, if there be any part of man really so.

So Romans (v 5)—“Because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost, which is given unto us.”

ALL MEN HAVE WORSHIPPED GOD FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE WORLD.

It is believed that the gods have been worshipped by all men from the very beginning.

HONOR THE GODS ACCORDING TO YOUR MEANS.

It becomes the man who fails in no ways to honor the gods to the best of his means, to be of good courage, hoping for the greatest blessings; for no one can with reason hope for greater blessings from others than from those who are able to benefit him most.

So Psalms (xxxii 10)—“He that trusteth in the Lord, mercy shall encompass him about.”

THE OMNIPRESENCE OF GOD.

The fury of the gods I know not how any man may escape by flight, nor in what darkness he could hide himself, nor in what strong place he could take refuge. For all things are everywhere subject to the control of the gods, and they rule in the armies of heaven as among the inhabitants of the earth.

RULERS ARE NECESSARY.

For without rulers and directors nothing honorable or useful can be accomplished, to sum up in one word, anywhere; but chiefly of all in the affairs of war.

THE BRAVE LIVE WHERE THE COWARD DIES IN BATTLE.

For I have always observed this, fellow-soldiers, that those who use every means to save their lives in war generally meet with a base and disgraceful death; whereas those who feel that death is the common and allotted fate of all men, I often see to reach old age, and while they live they enjoy a happy life.

PRAISE IS THE SWEETEST OF ALL SOUNDS.

The sweetest of all sounds is praise.

IMPOSSIBLE TO DO ALL THINGS WELL.

It is impossible for a man attempting many things to do them all well.

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